Daily Report

Latin America

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OAS To Discuss U.S. Troops' 'Violation'

PA0201212690 Paris AFP in Spanish 2041 GMT 2 Jan 90

[Text] Washington, 2 Jan (AFP)—The Organization of American States (OAS) will discuss at an urgent meeting on 4 January Nicaragua's charge of "violation by invading U.S. Army troops" of the home of the Nicaraguan ambassador in Panama last 29 December, it was learned here today.

The session will be held at Nicaragua's request.

"This action by the U.S. troops constitutes an open and unjustifiable transgression of the rules and principles of international law, of the 20 February 1928 Havana Convention on diplomatic officials, and of the 18 April 1961 Vienna Convention on diplomatic relations," Victoria Castillo, Nicaraguan charge d'affaires to the OAS, stated upon requesting the meeting.

In a letter to Uruguayan Ambassador Didier Opertti, president of the Permanent Council, and Brazilian Ambassador Joao Baena Soares, secretary general of the top hemispheric organization, Victoria Castillo explained why a special meeting of the OAS was being called "urgently" to "consider the violation by the invading U.S. Army troops of the home of the Nicaraguan ambassador in the Republic of Panama."

"I also request your valuable intercession so the U.S. Government will grant an entry visa to this country to Atenor Ferrey, Nicaraguan Ambassador to Panama, so he can attend the special meeting of the OAS Permanent Council" this coming Thursday, the letter added.

Cuba

Havana Notes Bush Statement on Noriega Surrender

FL0401034690 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 0333 GMT 4 Jan 90

[Text] Deposed General Manuel Antonio Noriega today turned himself over to the U.S. forces that surround the Vatican Embassy in Panama City. This was reported over television by U.S. President George Bush and it has been confirmed by several press agencies. According to the Yankee leader's version, Noriega voluntarily turned himself over to U.S. troops with the full awareness of the Panamanian Government and he will be tried by a Miami Federal Court on charges of narco-trafficking.

The foreign minister of the pro-U.S. government of Guillermo Endara said that Noriega's (?situation) was very difficult for Panama.

Meanwhile the Vatican newspaper published the remarks made by the current Panamanian vice president, Ricardo Arias Calderon, in reference to his country's inability to try Manuel Antonio Noriega, who has turned himself over to the intervening troops of the United States.

Panama May Break Relations With Havana, Managua

FL0401002190 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 0008 GMT 4 Jan 90

[Text] Panamanian Foreign Minister Julio Linares today said that his country is reviewing the possibility of breaking diplomatic relations with Cuba and Nicaragua. Linares said that Panama has learned from international reports that Cuban authorities do not recognize the government of Guillermo Endara. This may result in the departure of Cuba's diplomatic personnel from Panama, he said, because Panama cannot allow accredited personnel in the country who do not recognize the current government.

Tension Lower by Diplomatic Premises in Panama

FL0301130590 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 3 Dec 90

[Report by Nelson Notario Castro]

[Text] Changes have taken place in the last few hours regarding the situation being faced by our diplomatic installations. Although U.S. invader troops remain in the areas near the embassy located in front of Porras Park and the residence of the ambassador, Comrade Lazaro Mora, the truth of the matter is that no incidents have taken place and there have been no reports of harassment by U.S. units.

In both places, Cuban officials have gone in and out without problem after presenting their identification documents. The Vienna Convention is being complied with regarding the bags of the people in the diplomatic installations. Specifically, in the residence no more attempts have been made to search the high-level Cuban diplomats. Two cars with diplomatic plates that had been held in the ambassador's residence were able to be taken out of the premises.

In addition, the cannon of the tank outside the ambassador's residence is no longer pointing at the interior of the home. It is now aimed at an indefinite point in a nearby street.

Sources in the Cuban Embassy here in the isthmian nation comment that this atmosphere of reduced tension is a result of Cuba's firmness, of its position of principles, of the calmness adopted when faced with each provocation, and the certainty that rights can only be claimed by being straight and courageous.

However, it is believed here that, as long as U.S. troops remain near our diplomatic installations, important international norms are being violated.

While all this is happening, necessary and complex steps are being taken to send to Cuba on 4 January afternoon the relatives of the diplomatic officials, especially children, Cuban personnel in transit caught in Panama during the U.S. invasion, and people seeking political asylum. I repeat, this would take place Thursday afternoon if all formalities are taken care of in a timely manner.

Panamanian Asylum Seekers Situation 'Uncertain'

FL0401015890 Havana Television Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 4 Jan 90

[Report by Nelson Notario Castro]

[Excerpt] In reference to the 4 January Cubana de Aviacion flight, the first since the United States invaded Panama, a source from our Cuban Embassy here reported the following:

1. The Cuban airplane has been authorized to land in Panama.

2. Essential details still must be taken care of in reference to the flight which will return to Cuba the family members of Cuban officials and personnel who were surprised in transit by the invasion of Panama.

The source said it was important to mention that if the inherent details pertaining to the dispatch of the plane are not satisfactorily resolved, the flight not take place. The Omar Torrijos International Airport in Tocumen is only operating until 1600, and very little time has been allotted to prepare the airplane.

In reference to their exit to Cuba, the situation of the Panamanians seeking asylum in the Cuban diplomatic installations is uncertain. They have not yet received their corresponding safe conducts. Once they receive

safe conduct, specific details will have to be provided on their transfer to the international airport. [passage omitted]

Number of Combatants Pulled Out of Angola Noted

FL0301134190 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 3 Jan 90

[Text] The Ministry of the Revolutionary Armed Forces [FAR] reports that 2,268 internationalist combatants were pulled out of the People's Republic of Angola in December, in line with the bilateral agreements signed between Cuba and Angola in New York on 21 December 1988. This makes a total of 29,557 combatants who have returned to the fatherland up to 31 December 1989. With this, our country continues complying with the withdrawal plan. In accordance with the agreements signed, the entire personnel withdrawal has been supervised by the UN Verification Mission.

Commentary Views 'Maladies' of Capitalism

FL0301195290 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 1800 GMT 3 Jan 90

[Station commentary]

[Text] In one of his year-end speeches, Comrade Fidel told us: There are beautiful words only socialism can utter, they are the words for all. This is true indeed because in every capitalist society unequality is manifested in a brutal and shameful way. Not even developed capitalist countries are spared of this phenomenon because of the fact that unequality is an intrinsic phenomenon of capitalism.

For example, there are over 500,000 homeless children in the United States now. This was reported by the U.S. Congress in mid-December. The congressmen said in an even more somber tone that this figure will increase to almost 900,000 during the course of the current 5-year period.

If one thinks about the U.S. opulence, of its fabulous resources, the drama seem a hallucination. However, it is a bitter reality. Children are homeless and go hungry in a country that spends $300 billion a year on weapons and war programs. Old people die of cold in the streets in a country where groups of men have fortunes amounting to billions of dollars.

Where is the logic and coherence of that system? Without alluding to other maladies, perhaps even worse, this cannot be what the humankind of the future aspires.

The drama increases and reaches incredible proportions in poor nations where societies live under capitalist regimes. Right now, the UNICEF just showed us an X-ray of the decade the world has begun. It tells us that 100 million children could die of diseases such as dehydration, pneumonia, tetanus, measles, or rubella. That is, maladies that can be treated or prevented with insignificant costs. However, those deaths will occur. Who is responsible for this? Undoubtedly, capitalism and its monstrous system of distribution, plunder, and exploitation.

Today, some Western leaders are urging humankind to live in this hell and they have the cynicism of presenting it as the best thing in the world. For our part, as it has been said before, we say: It would be better for the island to sink into the sea.

Forensics Official Says Homicide Not a Problem

FL0301224190 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 2040 GMT 3 Jan 90

[Report by Delia Rodriguez Garcia]

[Text] Because the number of homicides reported in 1 day in other countries is equal to the number of homicides that occur in Cuba in 1 year, homicide is not a problem in our country, said Dr Jorge Gonzalez, director of the Forensics Institute. He said that it is unusual for a forensic expert to be absent from the scene of a death because the presence of this specialist is considered to be fundamental to the investigation.

To guarantee forensics training and to make certain the forensic expert reports to the scene of an accident, the institute has a staff on duty. The forensic expert and his team will conduct investigations and an autopsy in the presence of the homicide investigators, the forensics institute director said. Even though homicide is not a problem in Cuba, the cases that are reported are primarily caused by passion and temporary mental problems, said Jorge Gonzalez, candidate for a doctorate in medical sciences.

The dynamic director of the Forensics Institute, known as a center of great skill because of its decisive participation in natural and accidental catastrophes, said that part of the activities of the forensic experts in a homicide is the physical examination performed on the victim to ascertain his relationship to the events. The experts also participate in trials as part of their fundamental criminal-technical work, Dr Gonzalez said.

In conclusion, Dr Gonzalez stressed that whatever method is used to commit a homicide, it will be effectively detected by forensics technicians because the institute has the professionals and resources to do it.

Castro Dedicates Polyclinics in Havana City

PY0301174889 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 1800 GMT 31 Dec 89

[Speech by President Fidel Castro at a ceremony to dedicate 11 polyclinics in Havana City Province on 30 December—recorded]

[Text] [Crowd applauds, chants Fidel's name] Comrades: I have come to this podium merely to discharge a formal duty. I asked Fran [not further identified] what I was supposed to say. I was going to talk [laughs] a little

about medicine, but he has already said everything. Moreover, there is not much to say about medicine.

First—and this has nothing to do with medicine but rather with history—as has already been said here today, we have completed another project within the development program for our capital. We have concluded the project designed to build 20 polyclinics. As has also already been said here, we first completed the construction of childrens centers, we have now completed the project for the construction of polyclinics, and tomorrow we will complete the program for the construction of specialized schools. These are three very important projects for our capital. By starting this construction revolution, this social development program, 1 year ahead of time, our capital is a step ahead of the other Cuban provinces.

Today we have dedicated 11 of these polyclinics. We have only visited three of them: one in the Havana Vieja District, another in the Cerro District, and now this one here in the Marianao District, where we decided to hold this ceremony. Another 9 polyclinics have already been dedicated, making a total of 20. As comrade (Tomas Micro Obligada) has said, one or two are still missing a few details, but they were inaugurated today because they are almost ready. We usually dedicate these polyclinics after they are functioning, and almost all of them are already doing so. Only a few are waiting for some equipment or some minor details so that they will all be functioning in January. I do not know.... [changes thought] The 20 polyclinics will all be functioning in January.

When this program was prepared, we looked into the condition of Havana's polyclinics. We were told that some new polyclinics were needed, and that some 17 existing polyclinics did not have the appropriate facilities. As a result, we realized that we would have to replace 17, or 16 polyclinics and to build a few new ones. Is this number sufficient, we asked. Yes, this is the number of polyclinics the capital needs, we were told. We will build them, I said. We asked how many new ones were needed in (?El Cerro) and how many existed there. Now, with the existing two, which are not new, we have four. When I asked if the number of required polyclinics is complete, I was told: Well, now that we have seen the new ones, the existing ones look old. No, no, I told them, the question was about the number of existing polyclinics and not whether they were adequate. Nothing can be compared to new things, right? It does not mean that we will close the nearly 60 polyclinics [laughs] that are not new. I will visit some of these polyclinics which until now were considered excellent, and which now, compared to the new ones, look old. I must tell you, however, that for the time being you must put up with the existing ones. I am sure that my comrades at the Public Health sector have thoroughly checked the conditions of the existing polyclinics.

The new ones are, undoubtedly, more complete and they all have physiotherapy rooms and all the physiotherapeutic services. Previously neither the polyclinics nor the hospitals had this type of service, not even the (?Julio Diaz Hospital).

After considering several solutions, it was decided to build a physiotherapeutic gymnasium in each of the old polyclinics. This is one of the basic advantages of the new polyclinics because it was not easy to install these gymnasiums in the existing polyclinics, particularly in the old part of Havana, where there is not much room. On the hill, where the polyclinic dedicated today was built, it was not easy to find room enough for the gymnasium. In some places, the projects had to be adapted: some gymnasiums have three floors, because there was not enough space to build a gymnasium like this one. This service will be installed in other polyclinics. All the equipment of the polyclinics will be reviewed so that all them have the appropriate conditions to render adequate services to the people.

We have fully implemented this program. If new districts and new neighborhoods are created, we will logically have to create new polyclinics and new centers.

We were told that 19,500 centers were needed. We have created the equivalent of 25,000 child-care centers—over 25 percent more than the requested number. We have built 110 child-care centers. [All numbers as heard] (?Or was that the other program?) Does that mean that the need has not increased? I want you to know that new child-care centers are necessary now. We will study the issue, and the natural need for more centers will be met. In the capital, (?it has been said) that 4,500 beds were needed. In 3 and ½ years, important health projects have been implemented. In (?Dienenrique) the number of beds has been increased by some 800; the capacity of the (Albarran) Hospital has been doubled; the Marianao children's hospital, which had already been started, has been (?finished) during this period; the number of beds has been increased at many hospitals, such as the Julio Dias Hospital, where the number of rehabilitation rooms is being increased at a huge cost. At the Salvador Allende Hospital, the number of beds has been considerably increased. Similarly, several other hospital facilities have been improved, so that 4,500 additional beds have been added in the last 3 and ½ years.

Some days ago, the Juan Manuel Marquez Hospital was dedicated. Some important medical services have started to operate at the (Manuel Amenheida) Hospital, where the most modern techniques in the world are employed, such as axial computerized tomography—better known as Cematon, which was the brand name of the first equipment for computerized tomography to be received in Cuba; magnetic nuclear resonance; and the lineal accelerator, which is already being used there. I have not mentioned some other important works, such as the expansion of the Luis Soto Hospital [corrects himself] Luis Dias Soto, (?in the list of Havana). This

extremely important expansion included the creation of the most modern type of first aid, emergency service assistance.

As I already mentioned, nearly 2,900 family doctors have begun working over the past 3 or 4 years. More than 2,000 consulting rooms have been opened. Other services are now being offered, like this pioneer mobile equipment for the early detection of breast cancer. This equipment is very important because it saves lives and prevents great psychological traumas. This is the very latest equipment in the world, and our country has already bought it and is already using it.

We have some services which other countries do not have; for example, the prenatal genetics service which is available for all the population. This equipment can, at an early stage, detect some congenital defects—the most important and serious ones—and detect allergies in each newborn baby to adopt the appropriate preventive measure to prevent the allergy from becoming a serious illness. No other country in the world gives this service, except for a few privileged people. Children are tested for allergies or illnesses like hypothyroidism, or any other problem which, if detected on time, could prevent mental or [word indistinct] disability.

This special [word indistinct] service is available in the whole country. Very few places are still waiting for the arrival of these laboratory units. These kind of general services are not available in any other country of the world, be it rich, poor, developed, or underdeveloped. The early detection of congenital defects, which is done through the [name indistinct] equipment, is very effective and very important. Early heart disorders are detected in the Child Cardiovascular Surgery Center, to either interrupt early pregnancies or to adopt the appropriate measures for the delivery, thus solving the problem.

We offer some other important services like vaccines, including the anti-meningo-cox vaccines which no other country in the world has. Research into the early detection of uterus cancer is very advanced. We are already offering ocular micro-surgery services to treat myopia. No other country in this hemisphere offers this service. Some of the Soviet population has access to this service (?which is extending) throughout the country. Probably there are other services that I do not remember right now.

We offer many practically exclusive services to our population. No other country has our (?pioneer) family doctor service. Seventy-five percent of the population of our capital receives these services. There are dozens of childcare centers, factories, and schools with a family doctor.

Transplants are carried out in our capital and in the rest of our country, of organs like kidneys, heart, etc. Nerve rehabilitation and transplant, in the capital and the rest of the country, has excellent possibilities. The burned are receiving skin growth treatment [factor de crecimiento epidermico]. No other country uses this method so far.

Preventive medicine is improving, and therapeutic medicine is not far behind. Some illnesses are not wholly understood yet, but we have already begun to study them. One case in point is (?pigmentitis retinosis). In a few days we will open an entire hall in the Salvador Allende Hospital to treat these ailments. A new hall in (Simex Hospital) will likewise be given over to the rehabilitation and transplant of nerves. This hall will deal with ailments like Parkinson's disease, Huntington's Chorea—an ailment peasants used to call the (?Sambito) illness because it caused people to shake out of control and die of exhaustion and mental disorder. This is a hereditary disease, and the first efforts to treat it in our country have already been made.

Despite these positive results our people will continue to work in this area.

We have encouraged improvements to the grandparents activity centers. The results are encouraging because these elders have improved mentally and physically. This improvement has resulted in a decrease in suffering and in medicine consumption. The movement is getting stronger because it shows a new dimension of social development. This sector of society has not been adequately looked after. They were relatively forgotten. Programs cared more for children, the youth, etc. People forget the psychological problems and suffering of the elderly.

No capitalist society has these concerns. In our system we have to worry about their standard of living, their material resources, their houses. We have to build what are called—and they are not institutions, they are homes for the elderly. We will build these homes so the elderly can be cared for. However, pensions and elder's homes are not enough. We must concern ourselves with their lives, their state of mind, how they feel after retiring, how they are considered in society, if they are respected, how is their life organized.

Today we saw here a choir of grandmothers and heard the grandfathers' anthem that was written by one of them. They told me how they organized tours to Youth Island, to the country, to visit historic sites, to see peasants working. I jokingly asked them what kind of sportswear they used, but I did not dare ask them if they used bikinis. One of them answered smiling: Listen to me, I was born in 1800 and something. She was joking. Another grandmother said: I use bermudas and a blouse, but that other dress I will not use. She said that, while showing great dignity, great self esteem.

I asked which place she liked the best and she said she liked Youth Island very much. Did you go there by plane? No we traveled in the Comet [no further identified]. Were you afraid? No, afraid of what?

They looked well, very well. They looked healthy, energetic, happy. I think this is essential. The number of

people above 60, 70, 80, 90, and even 100 years will increase due to medical research and as the health of the population improves. In Cuba we already have a large number of people above 100 years old. They will live longer thanks to medical research.

As medical science progresses, they will live longer. These people have given their lives to their work. They must be given a place of honor in society. They must be treated with special consideration, and special conditions must be created so that they may live as happily as possible.

Psychologists know the type of concerns affecting people at the different age levels; the type of anxiety and affliction they are suffering. They need to be helped in this struggle. We can say that we must help youths, adults, and children, but especially, we must help the elderly.

And as these ideas and concepts gain strength, we are more able to carry them out. In our country, one day we will be able to provide the necessary childcare centers for all the children. Today we are providing them for the children of working mothers, but as we have said on other occasions, perhaps one day we will be able to provide them for all children. These childcare centers will have tremendous importance, and they will have a tremendous influence on the mental and physical development of the child.

Our society may be the only society, or the only social system, capable of providing assistance to people to the final second of their lives. We should imitate [name indistinct]: He was a great socialist [applause] in a capitalist country. When he was asked about the elderly, he said: In the richest country, with the most developed technology—the United States—there are scores, and hundreds of thousands of elderly people abandoned on the streets. In ostentatious New York City, and in the famous cities of Chicago and California, etc., there are thousands, and tens of thousands, and hundreds of thousands, and when there is cold weather like now, scores and scores of them die.

A few days ago I read a report explaining that many of those abandoned poor people fake some crimes or violate any law so as to be taken to prison to avoid the cold weather, for fear of dying of cold or of hunger on the streets.

I am speaking of old people but in that country there are also scores of thousands, and hundreds of thousands of children on the streets. Once I read a figure which is truly impressive. And around [word indistinct] there are thousands of missing children. Nothing is ever heard of them again. This is capitalism. I would like you to go to New York to ask the workers, men or women, whether their children have childcare centers, or at least a nurse. In many cases, when there are nurses there is no doctor.

Go and ask the people of neighborhoods in New York whether there are polyclinics for all the citizens, and whether these polyclinics are open around the clock with a doctor on duty as proposed by the health board in the capital. Ask whether assistance is given at any time of the day or night. or if an x-ray can be taken there, or if that equipment is used for a...how do you call that? Oh, yes, for an electrocardiogram, or an electrocardiograph, this is what I wanted to say. Or whether an x-ray can be taken, a heart check-up, or a laboratory analysis can be made at any time of the day or night?

Ask the fellow from New York if there is a family doctor 100 meters from his home, and if he is available at any time during the day of night—without charge. Or if the polyclinic is free, or if examinations, or the doctor's visit are free. Ask any New York neighbor with high blood pressure, diabetes, respiratory problem, or heart or kidney problem if a doctor routinely walks by his home to ask how he is, how is he reacting to the medicine, is he following the instructions, and how does he feel?

And this is done with affection, with love, by a young doctor, without costing a cent. Ask the New York neighbor in need of a kidney transplant, ask him if the transplant, the kidney transplant he needs, is done with all the resources without charge.

If he needs a myopia operation, something that is not a luxury, it is not an aesthetic matter, but a need to improve his physical condition. It is not a matter of merely using eye glasses, it is to save the person the need to use them, and to guarantee him good eyesight.

All these things we have to ask the women of New York. If the government has any program to prevent breast cancer, or to prevent children's diseases. If they have any programs for that, because if the person who has money can have the programs he wants—and at a high cost—the rest of the population does not benefit from these programs. Even though salaries are high the laborer's rent for his home, or for public transport, is even higher. You have to pay $1 to make a trip in New York. With that money here you can make 10 trips. That is, honest citizens who pay their tickets [applause].

Salaries, rents, and transportation costs will increase, luxury items many times. When you are sick, you suffer the worse consequences. What we have and what we will have is a problem the rich capitalist countries do not have, not to mention the poor capitalist countries. There are two capitalisms: the rich capitalism of those old metropolises that looted the world, and the capitalism of the countries that were looted, that were colonized for centuries, that had underdevelopment and poverty imposed on them. We should speak for these countries!

Here we are waging a battle to lower [the infant mortality rate] from 11.9 to 11, from 11 to 10, and from 10 to 9. This is a tremendous battle. For instance, I mentioned that in the past years we have established intensive pediatric therapy in all of the country's pediatric hospitals. I did not mention the number of consultations for each mother nor did I mention the prenatal services and care that we have been providing in all the country's

hospitals in the past years, beginning in Havana, for all children and mothers, for all, for all the sick, for all the children, for all the mothers, for all human beings, for all the young, and for all the elderly. These are beautiful phrases that only socialism can pronounce.

To fight a battle to reduce from 11 to 10 [words indistinct] 9 to 11 or minus [word indistinct] this is around.... Then to lower it to 10, then to 9. You have heard that the figure in some municipalities of the capital is below 10, in some it is higher. I have asked this time [word indistinct] and has talked to me about the incidence of congenital abnormalities that make survival impossible. [Words indistinct] will study, and I agree; this has to be studied. What is happening in Marianao, which has a higher rate? We have to know the reasons so we can give increasing assurance to each mother who bears a child or who will bear a child. We are waging the battle at about 10, while others are at more than 100, or more than 80, or more than 60.

There are hundreds of thousands of children who die in this hemisphere, in Latin America, because they were not given a tablet in time, because diarrhea was not stopped in time, because a simple vaccine was not applied in time. There are hundreds of thousands of children who die...because those in responsible positions do not care This is capitalism in the Third World, which is not the capitalism of New York, of Washington. The capitalism of Washington, rich as it is, has an infant mortality rate three times higher than in the capital of the Republic of Cuba.

Those petty gentlemen [cabelleritos] in Washington—these invaders, these people who sow justice and democracy throughout the world with the point of their mercenary soldiers' bayonets—have an infant mortality rate higher than 30 percent. They invade countries to do away with freedom, to do away with democracy. Thousands of children are dying in their own country and they are not capable of doing anything to save them. They could probably save thousands of children in the United States alone, not to mention the Third World, with the money they spend on one of those tanks they use for their military adventures.

Experts and scientists have calculated what could be done to save 12 million children. Some 12 to 14 million children could be saved. These figures speak for themselves: 40,000 per day. According to UNICEF, the lives of some 14 million children could be saved every year, but this is not the case. They die because of underdevelopment, and underdevelopment exists because of colonialism. They die because capitalism and imperialism existed, they die because capitalism and imperialism exist. They die because their countries are looted, because they have to import all their goods, including medicine, at higher prices every day, and because they have to sell their goods at lower prices every day, they have to sell their raw material at lower prices every day. Capitalism and imperialism murder 14 million children every year. Capitalism and imperialism drop 140 atomic bombs—similar to the Hiroshima and Nagasaki bombs—on the Third World. They cannot even save their own children, as reflected in the infant mortality rate in the capital of imperialism that I have just mentioned.

Therefore, there is no assertion.... [changes thought] There are two systems, two conceptions of life. Undoubtedly, poor capitalism, underdeveloped capitalism suffers the most.

It is incredible to read in a newspaper, in a press report, that 60 out of every 1,000 children die in these countries. There is no doubt that, to reduce their mortality rate to Cuba's level today, they need more sophisticated medicine. They would not have to spend too much to reduce that mortality rate from 60 to 20, from 80 to 20, from 100 to 20. But then, of course, there is another problem; they mention those who died but not those who do not die. One would think that those who did not die grow up in a healthy and lively manner, but this is only a petty lie. They grow up skinny, rickety, with an undeveloped body, with an undeveloped brain, because of the hunger they suffered during their first days, months, or year, because of the hunger their mothers endured.

We have asked how many governments are drafting programs for raising the weight of children at birth, for caring for all the difficult pregnancies. How many governments [words indistinct]. Can this be expected from capitalism? Capitalism in other countries produced more bones. Some funeral parlor owners were doing business with the hospitals. Some funeral parlor owners were doing business with the Psychiatric Hospital since before the revolution. There were men dying there like in many other public hospitals. This is capitalism, egotism, exploitation of man, man converted into predator of man, devourers of man, man as the enemy of man.

This is not what one sees when one comes to a child care center. I would ask the young ladies who went to school, the graduated childcare assistants who tend the children as they would their own, who give themselves to caring and tending those children...this is what one sees when one comes to a polyclinic, like this one...from the time one arrives, from the director, the nursing secretary, the youth secretary, the sub secretary of unions...or one comes across the first physician, or the second physicians, or the head of the entomology, or the man who works with x-rays... what does one see in these men? Ambition, avarice, lust for money, or a desire to serve their countryman who seeks assistance? What do we see in their faces there...the faces of hatred, the faces of moneymakers, or the faces of noble men consecrated to the service of others, to the service of a child as they would like their own child to be tended, or to tend a parent as they would like their own to be tended, or to tend someone's sister with the same love they would tend their own sister? This is socialism and this is the way socialism educates, because behind every service there is not an outstretched hand asking for a tip, asking to be paid. If someone were to ask for a tip in a socialist

country it would mean that something has gone wrong, that the education of a man has gone wrong, that the development of his conscience has gone awry.

Here in our country fortunately we don't see these things, nor will we ever see them. We aspire to have even better physicians, nurses, technicians...and better nurses not only in their personal conduct, but in their scientific training. The next generation of physicians and nurses are already studying together in our medical schools. We have raised nurses training to a higher level, as we are raising the training of elementary school teachers. We will continue these programs that must not disappear from the face of the earth because we do not want them to disappear from the face of the earth.

We would prefer to disappear from the face of the earth rather than to live under a repugnant social system in which everyone is out to take advantage of everyone else, in which everyone wants to oppress others, to exploit others. We will see if they can, we will see if they can make us disappear. Because this revolution, this country, let there be no mistake about it, is a hard nut to crack. [long applause]

We will continue with our program. We know how many hospitals we need, when we have to build them, the programs we are carrying out. We think there is nothing more urgent, that we need a pediatric hospital, like Juan Manuel Marquez Hospital, in eastern Havana and another in the southwest end, for a better geographic distribution of these hospitals. We know that we lack a clinical-surgical hospital in the east and another in the west [not further specified].

Finally, we will continue to advance in the field of health and in other areas. We will have all that we need in this field. We will have all the grandparents clubs we need with support from all family physicians. In a few more years we will have household physicians for 100 percent of the families, all the circles of household heads, all the important factories, and all the important schools, as for the largest [name indistinct] house, it includes a nurse. The effort required in its construction has been greater, and for this reason we have had to slightly reduce the number that we are building, and we are allocating a larger number [not further specified] to these institutions.

But we will continue with our program [words indistinct] interest 100 percent in the capital; that is, 100 percent of the polyclinics. Tomorrow we will be able to say 100 percent of the special schools, and we can already say 100 percent of the childcare centers, of the most pressing demands, of the demand we had, and above the demand we had. And if we have to make more, one who makes a sixth can make a hundredth, and one who makes a hundredth can make a ten thousandth, so we are not frightened by anything. [sentence as heard]

To have food for the [word indistinct], we are developing agriculture, heavily investing in agriculture, developing important animal food so that we can have more milk, more eggs, more meat, more food, more vegetables, more rice, whatever is needed to have all the childcare centers that we need. We know very well that each special school has food costs, that each childcare center represents an effort the country is making at this time. The country must make extraordinary efforts to have these resources.

The effort to develop the construction material industry is also extraordinary. Yesterday we inaugurated a few plants, and we will have bricks, blocks, tiles, mosaics, and other materials to make [words indistinct] with this construction material. [applause] We know how many tiles we need to build a polyclinic—a center—as well as how many bricks and how many blocks. Some of them are easier to obtain; other resources are more difficult. We talked yesterday of the need to save so that we can have everything. Going back to our subject, (?every family) in our capital [words indistinct] will have all the institutions, all the hospitals, the most modern and sophisticated services necessary. And when we get ready to build the grandparents homes, we will see if we can build them at the required pace.

We all know that the grandparents do not have any logistic support, that is to say, that they do not have economic help, [someone nearby says something to Castro], their children's help, [again someone says something to Castro], ah, help from the family, because they might have a sister who takes care of them.

We will continue to develop new medicines, new preventive programs. The most advanced medical services already exist, and they will continue to become increasing available to our people.

The medical family should be encouraged by the inauguration of polyclinic number 20 today. If one can do this much, one can do a lot more. [applause]

It is great that we can end 1989 with projects of this sort. As we have said before, deeds are worth more than words. What we need are deeds. The chatterboxes should be told that deeds are what we need. We should shut their mouths with deeds. We should say this to those who defend the capitalist theory—to the champions of capitalism—because that inhuman regime, that trash, that muck, will pass into history someday.

I still have something I want to mention. Some time ago, only 1 year ago, an Interior Ministry soldier, who was only 25 years old, died while chasing a delinquent. His comrades from the Interior Ministry helped build this polyclinic. As all of you know, they contributed to build these polyclinics. This is why the people decided to name this polyclinic after the dead soldier. They have named it after (Carlos Manuel Fortun). I was saying to some comrades that I hope you will be able to save many lives at this polyclinic. Because, although this polyclinic reminds us of the death of a courageous youth, who died in the prime of his life, it is reassuring to know that you will, in exchange, save the life of innumerable people at this polyclinic.

I have nothing else to add. I do not know if I have spoken longer than Fran. I said to myself that Fran had said everything, but I did (?not) realize that he still had something to say. Socialism or death, motherland or death, we shall triumph. [applause]

Castro Addresses CUJAE Students

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[Speech by President Fidel Castro given at the ceremony marking the 25th anniversary of the Jose Antonio Echeverria University City, CUJAE, on 28 December—recorded]

[Text] [Students chant: Viva Fidel, socialism or death, we will win!] You are the ones who are going to hit the Yankees hard if one day they dare to disembark here [laughter], if one day they make some paratroopers jump here with their little bulletproof vests.

Comrades, professors, (?workers), students: [passage indistinct] It was so close that it was heading toward the capital and it was expected that it could pass through the province at any time. We were able to dedicate the pediatrics hospital because the ceremony was held inside and because it was linked to an international event attended by hundreds of foreigners who could not afford a postponement of the dedication ceremony of the hospital. The ceremony was held in a small building, the people had to stand and were a little uncomfortable, but it was held. Then, the next day I was told that we had to dedicate this project and a project over at Antillana de Acero, where I had to present banners to a contingent. I was told that it was quite muddy over there.

About this one, we did not know if [words indistinct] and were also expecting a cyclone. The next day was, however, sunny, but who could have guessed that. After all [words indistinct]. Then, we scheduled it for the 22d, when we had another cyclone—this one of a different nature—the Yankee invasion of Panama. At that time, we had no alternative but to cancel this ceremony again, as well as that at Antillana de Acero.

I was asking the workers when we could set another tentative dedication date and just 48 hours ago we said, well, the 28th. But for this occasion we already had another dedication ceremony, that is, in addition to the two pending ceremonies we have to add the bus terminal, which is quite close by and which we will dedicate today. This is not all, because scheduled for today also is a great rally organized by the youth, which will be both a notable event and a grand celebration. For all this, we had only 24 hours. Therefore, we decided to move up the schedules by 30 minutes to see if we could manage to do all this. [passage indistinct].

In reality, we have not even had time to familiarize ourselves with the information concerning the rich history of this institution. I learned about some facts from the rector's speech and others from the head of the contingent. Thus, I just came to chat with you and I believe there will be time [words indistinct] to present the banner, to dedicate this modest little project, which is what we are really dedicating here. I do not know if we are celebrating an anniversary, because at the pace we were going I believe this was going to be the 26th instead of the 25th anniversary.

Yet, well, we could remember something perhaps [word indistinct]. At this time, we should feel shame because this institution, what do they call it today, this city, should have been finished long ago. [Words indistinct] I was told that you like [word indistinct], I do, too, because I learned that name, but I had to work hard on it. Then, they changed that name for another more difficult one: CUJAE.

Well, there was no way to change it again, so I went along with CUJAE. Now, I know they had a brilliant idea: CUJAE is the University City and ISPJAE is the Jose Antonio Echeverria Higher Polytechnical Institute. Well, I believe we could use either name to refer to you, all right? At least let me continue to call this place CUJAE, which was the name that we dedicated it with and by which it became known. This does not mean that we are going to eliminate the ISPJAE or its rector.

Well, this project should have indeed been finished years ago. More than once I tried—about 12 or 14 years ago—to have this project expedited, but this project was smeared with bad luck, as the saying goes. There was no way to [words indistinct] some very large projects, the Moa nickel plant, large mechanical workshops, large facilities in that area, thousands of houses. We started projects such as the nuclear power plant; large projects requiring thousands and thousands of men. We started the thermoelectric power plant, east of Havana, which is also another large project that will produce no less than 1 million kilowatts. Thus, we have undertaken several large projects of various types throughout the country.

I am referring to the period from 1970 to 1974, 1975, when we gave a great boost to construction, the minibrigades were operating, we were building thousands of houses. Then, we had a period during which construction unfortunately declined in an extraordinary way, when many thought that we were using the best methods, the best systems to fulfill socialism which we (?copied)—we really must say this—from other countries. We really began to discover [words indistinct] of all that we were doing. There is no time to go into that, but I want to say that construction, which had had a great boom, [words indistinct] to which I referred earlier, we built hundreds of schools [words indistinct] secondary and preuniversity schools in rural areas. We built hundreds of these schools in difficult places, in the Isle of Youth, where it was very difficult to build because we had to take everything over there. We built all those schools.

Dozens of schools were built in Havana Province and in other provinces. More than 50 were built in (?Camaguey), in [word indistinct], in Cienfuegos, in

Sancti Spiritus, in several western regions, in Pinar del Rio. [Words indistinct] in 6 months, some were built in 5 months. The work force used to be organized in brigades. One of the [word indistinct] things we did was to abandon the principle of organizing brigades. [Words indistinct] equipment were being taken from one place to another. No one ever knew where a bulldozer, a truck, or a loader was. That and other things were disorganized. Construction work became completely disorganized and thus projects started to take forever. We must add to this planning (?problems). [passage indistinct]

One day I figured out the cost of the Santo Domingo-Corralillo Road, [words indistinct] I figured that if the cost of the road was [words indistinct] and at the rate of 100,000 per year, it would take 65 years to complete the road. In other times, we would have built a road like that in 2 or 2 and ½ years, 3 years at the most.

Great progress was being made on the national highway project. It went almost as far as Sancti Spiritus and there it stopped. Water management projects, which had also made great progress, started to slow down during that period. They complied with [words indistinct], but no project was completed. Thus, dam projects, road projects, and projects in general began to take forever. We stopped building schools; we stopped building livestock farms, canals, and irrigation systems. The railway project also began to take forever. Practically every construction project was taking a long time to build. It is incredible how such a decisive activity, like construction, was falling behind, but it was not the only activity falling behind. This happened because we abandoned the principle of minibrigades because those theoreticians said that mini-brigades were not in keeping with the system of planning and managing of the economy. Thus, the forces capable of building houses—nearly 4,000 houses were already being built in the provinces; 4,000 houses per year in the cities—began to disappear. We had a higher number of houses that needed repair. Each year we had an increasing number [passage indistinct].

All this really forced us to create a new revolution in the construction area. We had already done it once [words indistinct]. It was of course at that time that I also wanted to boost this project, but to no avail. Many other projects were boosted, but not this one. When we entered the construction decline period, the construction and completion of this University City was further delayed. For nearly 2 years we were trying to straighten out all this; in the first place by reorganizing, by re-creating the mini-brigades to attend to such urgent needs as providing houses in the capital; doing the repair work needed for a number of construction material industries, such as cement; and the creation of a number of new construction material factories.

We were devoting our time to all this; to rebuild our water management resources. Not long ago, the contingents appeared. How old are the contingents? I know this one is the Blas Roca. [indistinct words by unidentified speaker] Yes, we recently celebrated its 2d anniversary—2 years. This was a test to see how we could really boost construction. We reorganized construction brigades again and we have undertaken a task that has been instrumental in implementing a strong process of dynamizing construction activity, which is fundamental, because without construction there can be no industrial development, there can be no social development. We cannot build factories, hospitals, schools, houses, dams, roads, or railway projects. Without construction, we practically cannot do anything. This is why I think that construction is the most vital among economic activities. It is the most basic activity of all. Much progress has been made, but there are still things unresolved.

There are still places where construction workers are just goofing around. [Words indistinct] with them, I stop whenever I can and ask them if they are on strike or on vacation. One of the things I do when I want to find out how a project is going is to stop at a work site without making any noise, and I hear first bang, bang, bang, and then silence. A while later, I hear bang, bang, someone was hammering at something, but then silence again. One could not even hear the noise of a wheelbarrow, or of a concrete mixer, or of a hammer. They were always at either lunch or they were having a snack break.

[Words indistinct] talking with you here. Not long ago I was describing my misfortunes, that is, after touring who knows how many places in the country in an effort to give an impulse to construction work, suggesting the creation of contingents, I found that a few meters away from my office were some guys working on a little project. I believe it was to set up a power plant. Well, I will tell you this right away. Not long ago at a meeting of the Central Committee, all the party secretaries.... [changes thought] Look, how destiny works, because we already have 35,000 workers organized in contingents; 38,000 mini-brigade members [words indistinct] in the capital of the Republic, and there, 30 meters away from my office, there were some guys working at a pace with which they could never finish the project and [words indistinct] here I have to organize something, even a mini-contingent of 12 or 14 members and tell them: Gentlemen, get to work. It was not necessary because they were informed of what I said. [laughter] They expedited their work. [applause]

Every time I pass by that project I am astonished at the speed at which they are now working. Well, this was a humorous episode on this matter. There are more than 60 contingents, 35,000 men. It is a movement that is being gradually built. There are many candidates seeking to become contingents, but we do not recognize contingents until they meet all the requirements.

Contingents are today the front-runners. They are much better than what we had before. I am convinced that when we are able to organize 100,000 in contingents, these will do the work that was formerly done by 400,000 workers, with the difference that the contingents finish their projects and give them a quality touch. In the past,

projects were left unfinished and quality was something totally overlooked by the construction workers.

Even volunteer work became difficult. Those interested in volunteer work could not participate because everything was based on contracts. You are in charge of building this section of the wall; he has the other section. A volunteer worker could not start laying bricks because he would be working for a contractor. Then, what could a volunteer worker do? Ah, carry bricks from a pile to a wheelbarrow; from there to.... What do you call that, a winch? That is, hoisting up bricks to the man who was laying bricks. If he could, or if he wanted [words indistinct] the quality of the bricks, too. They were of an extremely poor quality.

If you visited a building, you would see the floor tiles [words indistinct] that some had a faded color, because floor tiles, bathroom tiles, must be laid in order, after carefully selecting them. In sum, quality work is ultimately a work of art. [Words indistinct] more than a science in construction work. We cannot overlook quality in our construction work. Contingents work hard, but they emphasize quality in the first place. Furthermore, they have a great productivity. I am not going to explain what contingents are. I said earlier that we do not have much time.

[Words indistinct] to promote a number of projects, many fundamental projects, we began to think what else was still pending. Then, we said we still have the CUJAE project pending. We still have the ISCAH project. I do not know if its name was also changed. What was the name? [Unidentified speaker: Higher Institute of Agricultural Sciences] Ah, yes, Higher Institute of Agricultural Sciences.

[Words indistinct] I talked to Carlos Lage [Central Committee member] about the Blas Roca contingent, that the only way to solve our problems was by organizing contingents and by making work start there with the contingent spirit. We made that decision [passage indistinct] and thus about 7 months ago we organized these two contingents. Initially, we do not want many. It is enough to have 150 or 200. Later, we should increase to 250, 300, or to 400.

[Words indistinct] the organization, the discipline observed within the contingent is that which results in productivity; or the equipment that is made available to the contingent, [words indistinct] we started this year. The steps were taken promptly and we obtained immediate results. Productivy was quadrupled per project. We were never to fulfill a plan here. This year I believe it was 1.9 million [not further explained]. How much will you get done by the 31st? [Words indistinct] we have lost so much time. We are now already beyond our production plan but we still have not met our goals. We have a plan of a little over 4 million for 1990; 4 million in 1991; over 3 million for 1992, but we already envisage the conclusion of this project during this period.

We have to give them some support. They have requested some equipment because they say they have to work in various places. In reality, much of the earth movement work was carried out by the Blas Roca contingent; that is, earth movement work for the construction of eight new bus terminals we decided to urgently build. We asked the Blas Roca contingent to do the earth movement work. In fact, there was one that was already underway. The Blas Roca contingent did the earth movement work for seven bus terminals in a few weeks. The Blas Roca did this work without disrupting its other plans. It has a great mechanized force, many trucks and bulldozers. It is even working with loaders—most of which were manufactured here in Cuba. This equipment still has some problems, but the contingent members have been able to use them effectively and productively. In general, the construction of the four central markets is being carried out by the Blas Roca contingent, which has carried out other projects we decided to build urgently to improve distribution.

Thus, we assigned a number of tasks to the Blas Roca. Regarding facilities for the Pan American games, we told the Blas Roca: Take care of the earth movement work. We cannot do that in a project like this because it does not involve earth movement in just one area. As the head of the contingent was telling me, there are dozens of areas here. In this case, we cannot deny the usefulness of having some trucks, some bulldozers, some loaders. There is a list somewhere. [Words indistinct] reasonably will be given to them. They still need 700,000 cubic meters of earth. It is important because they have to build the sports fields that are still needed. I am very happy about the fact that they can build the sports fields now. I believe we can start making headway in those projects. In January, we are going to assign a number of equipment to this brigade so that it can have this equipment. Then, we are going to decide where this brigade is going to go from here with all its equipment, because this equipment does not belong to the enterprise. It belongs to the brigade, of course. [applause].

When a contingent has many brigades, they can support one another. For instance, the Blas Roca contingent has a brigade with 21 tractor scrapers [passage indistinct]. Therefore, when a contingent is already organized as some sort of special enterprise, then (?brigades) can support one another. [Passage indistinct] then, one can never locate anything. Then, things get lost. How can one reinforce it? It would be best if the contingent were organized as a special enterprise with a number of brigades.

The Blas Roca contingent already has, [rephrases] I believe it already has 25 brigades, with some new projects that were assigned to it.

We recently found another project that was behind schedule and assigned it to the Blas Roca. This is a very important project, the factory of biological products in that place, Bejucal. The Construction Ministry, which

has improved many of its [word indistinct], was unfortunately still unable to improve that project. We had already assigned some of our best [words indistinct] that were needed to promote that project, which is of strategic importance. Today, Cuba is the only producer in the world of the Type B anti-meningococcical vaccine. We have already received orders from many countries, but that project is behind schedule, as everyone knows. We toured the area and we made a decision. We found that that project was behind schedule, that it was behind schedule [passage indistinct].

Projects undertaken on the biological front are very important. This project unfortunately fell behind schedule. We assigned it to the Blas Roca contingent. It has not been 12 hours since we talked to them, when we discussed the cyclone, when a work force was already there in the morning. There is such disorder at that construction site. There are mountains of sand here [word indistinct], the streets were still not made. That was one place where one could stop and listen to see if the workers were making any noise. I talked to the workers, I tried to appeal to one thing every man has, that is, his feeling of shame. They were seeking [changes thought] they wanted to be candidates for contingent. Can you believe that with the spirit of laziness prevailing there they could become contingents? That was just an idea they had. They had very poor management, a very poor organization. It was the responsibility of the enterprise and several people were responsible for this.

That project has already received a great boost. We told them: Fix [words indistinct]. They are also working there because the Construction Ministry has many capable people, many capable cadres. Many of the contingents originated at the Construction Ministry. Yet, it has not been able to be organized and efficient everywhere. It is making gradual process, but that project could not wait any longer. [words indistinct]

At this time, I believe we have to build 94 railroad stations between Havana and Artemisa for the two-way railway system. There, they have truly made a great effort.

This brigade is still not part of an enterprise with several contingents. It is an isolated brigade. We had to hastily form it to finish the projects. We talked about the results here. Four months ago, I mentioned the workers' productivity, the considerable cost reduction per weight of production. The reduction occurred despite the fact that a special rate has been used for the contingents. Thus, these rates have a tendency to raise salaries a bit. We believe it is fair, and the contingents [words indistinct], that workers as dedicated as they are have a special rate. [Passage indistinct]

However, they have reduced production costs a lot. They are making progress in this project, and I think their progress will be much more evident next year. They will have their (?equipment). I would even recommend, even if the price increases, that some kind of priority...[rephrases] not priority, impetus be given to athletic fields. I think since there is such a large number of youths here, it is important that athletic fields are not the last thing that are built. [applause] We have talked about a budget of approximately 4 million, but if it needs to be increased, we will do it. Now, we all have the certainty that this project will be completed. Therefore, this shame will be over. We hope it will not happen again. Naturally, it is not the same thing to finish a project and several years later to expand it because new needs have arisen. There are projects such as nuclear power plants where two reactors are installed first, then another two. [passage indistinct]

All the contingents have moved forward all the projects. All of the approximately 60 contingents have considerably reduced production costs. They are finishing the projects and they are doing it with good quality. It is a great movement and that is why I want them to go [words indistinct]. There are many good ideas which in the process of their application are discredited. We do not want this idea to be discredited. [passage omitted] You have no idea how much working like a contingent helps the country, how much it reduces the costs. Naturally, it is easier to feed well 100,000 workers than it is to feed 400,000; or to house 100,000 workers instead of 400,000; or to transport 100,00 instead of 400,000. (?But) this is what the country needs. It does not mean that we are always going to have to work like this, no. However, lost time has to be recovered. For several years, we all will have to work like this. Well, not all of us. Not all of us can do it. It is not so easy to apply the contingent method. However, there are factories, like the ones we heard about at the National Assembly. The Artemisa cement factory applied some of the contingent's ideas. However, not all factories can apply those ideas, it was only applied in factories and by those who were working on certain set tasks. They were working 10 to 12 hours. The others were working 8-hour rotating shifts. But when they applied some of the ideas of contingents, they reduced the personnel roster by more than 150 people and they increased productivity per man by 33 percent. They even fulfilled their production plan which they were not going to meet. They even produced 20,000 tons of cement above the original plan.

We are going to apply those principles. But the contingent's methods are not applicable to all activities. Hopefully the students can work like contingents, that would be a [word indistinct] phenomenon. It would not take long to occupy the place you were talking about. [passage indistinct] We already have the completion date for this project. Whatever part of it can be done quicker we will do it.

The university director spoke here about the work carried out by this institution which does not accept [passage]. He said that approximately 27,000 graduated. [passage indistinct] It means a lot for our country to have tens of thousands of engineers and university graduates in all sectors and fields.

For example, in the field of technology and biotechnology we are already seeing spectacular results which promise a lot for the country. In the field of medicine, the advances we are making are known. There used to be only 3,000 doctors, we now have almost 40,000. Already by next year, we will have over 40,000. Today, our medical services can be considered among the best in the world; they have prospects which do not exist anywhere else in the socialist or capitalist world. This keeps improving because of the talent that has been created. In agriculture also...[rephrases] Today in any agricultural enterprise there are tens of university graduates. [words indistinct] It can be seen in our industries and construction where there are tens of thousands of graduates from this institution. However, many of them had to become teachers. Not all of them went directly [words indistinct].

At this difficult time, [rephrases] difficult times may lie ahead of us, I do not have to tell you today that we may be heading toward difficult times, difficult times for the security of our country because we are facing an empire that thinks that it owns the world, that it can commit all types of crimes and go unpunished, a triumphalist empire, an empire with a triumphalist spirit, which has just done what it has done in Panama, showing no respect for or consideration of the Latin American peoples, murdering thousands of Latin Americans, men and women like us, who speak our own language and who share our same customs, and we can go as far as saying that they share our same nature. It murdered thousands in the most [words indistinct] showing absolute disrespect for world opinion, for international laws, for the United Nations. So, we are facing some emboldened individuals.

We know what is going to happen to the imperialists if they enter Cuba. The Panamanians themselves had the chance of bogging them down. With a better concept, with a better use of their natural and military resources, they would have bogged imperialism down there in their small country. Yet, they are bogged down in other places, in El Salvador [corrects himself] San Salvador itself. They have failed in their counterrevolutionary war in Nicaragua, that small Central American country. We know, (?as I stated) recently, the firepower, the experience, the combative morale, the unity of our people [words indistinct] millions of soldiers will ultimately have to leave with their tails between their legs. But the risks for them to make a mistake are growing. Thus, there are growing threats to the security of our country. There are also major economic risks stemming from, as I said on previous occasions, what is happening over there in socialist countries. And there may be difficult, troubled times ahead of us in the economic area that would force us to use all our resourcefulness and efforts.

We know what happened once when the Yankee blockade started and when we could not receive even a small part from the United States, how our workers managed to keep our factories operating, our textile industries, all our industries. What a feat! At that time we did not even have an engineer, often there was not even a mid-level technician at the factory. There was just a man with a certain degree of natural talent working with an old little lathe. Today, we have thousands of lathes, dozens of thousands of lathes; dozens of thousands of engineers; dozens and dozens of thousands of midlevel technicians. Not even in our dreams could we have then what we have today.

Well, we have prepared for everything. Looking at the Panamanian experience, I believe that millions of Cubans should reflect on the great significance of having prepared for any aggression, the great significance of a war waged by all the people. A handful of men has prevented that extremely powerful Yankee army from taking (?the capital) in a few days and they did not know what to do with their little bulletproof vests, tucked inside their armored vehicles because they did not feel sufficiently safe with their vests and they preferred the bullets to go through their armored vehicles first before reaching them, because their vests did not reach as far as the navel. [laughter]. As I told the athletes recently [chuckles], even if they carry more arms than the knights of the Middle Ages, these will give them no protection at all.

We have seen through this same experience how important is to be well prepared, how important it has been for millions of citizens to have devoted so many hours, so many days, so many weeks to preparedness, to the need of continuing our preparations. We are strong in this area. We must also be prepared mentally and psychologically to face other types of difficulties. We said we are prepared for a direct aggression [rephrases] from a total blockade of our country to direct aggression. Nothing could be worse than this in the economic area. Thus, we are prepared and we have plans in the event of a total blockade of our country. We are not afraid of economic difficulties, which in no way could be so serious. This is why we are saying that come what may we will manage, we will defend ourselves and we will seek solutions to our problems.

Right now we have difficulties, which date back in time, we have problems with convertible currencies. Yet, our country continues to work and to make progress. Like we said at the National Assembly, what is important is not how much we grow, but the areas in which we grow. The important thing is to grow in strategic areas for the growth of the country. As I said yesterday, if we have a shortage of underpants fine, we'll feel bad about it. That is all right. They are important, but they are not strategic. [laughter] Construction and cement production are important. The production of iron rods, bulldozers, [word indistinct], trucks is important. The development of the auto industry will produce [word indistinct] and strategic vehicles. The railroads are strategic. The development of construction projects is strategic. This year, construction projects grew more than 200 million pesos and next year they will grow by more than 250 million pesos. We had been working on those things that were strategic for the economy, despite all the difficulties. [words indistinct]

So, in the midst of great difficulties, we have been able to say that we were the only country in this hemisphere that had not closed a school, hospital, polyclinic, or factory. We were the only country that has not thrown thousands of people to the streets, unemployed. This is the country where there is the most employment per year. This is the country where the most schools, special schools, polyclinics, and hospitals are built. [words indistinct] That is a privilege at this moment. We continue doing this under difficult circumstances. We have done whatever is possible so that the people are not lacking the essentials, even if there are less products than in the (?parallel) market. We are also carrying out a very ambitious food program; we are working with great impetus in this program. It is in these areas where investments are growing—in the canals and irrigation plans. [words indistinct] We are working on strategic areas, and that is the important thing. But if political catastrophies hit the socialist field, it will be a very special situation. We could (?call) it a special period in peace time, because of the serious economic consequences that [words indistinct]. But it would not be as serious as a situation, special period, caused by a military blockade of the country.

Yesterday we were talking about these things at the National Assembly. [passage indistinct] However, today it is much more feasible to do with the number of professionals that have graduated from our universities who we did not have when the revolution triumphed. We are perfecting the plans. We also talked about searching for a broader profile. Never doubt the convenience of a broader profile for the country. Just notice in the field of medicine. All doctors get a basic 6-year training, then they get specialized training. There are brother socialist countries [passage indistinct]. One specialized in gastric problems; it would take 25 doctors to see one patient. We want one doctor to see 25 patients. [words indistinct] However, we do not ignore specializations in medicine. We have over (?20) specializations. We have also tried to hold back because overspecialization also has other problems. (?That) is how they end up with (?20) specializations; they divided the human body in almost 10,000 parts and that is also a negative consequence. [passage indistinct].

We are going to gain a lot with this. In agriculture we were almost doing the same thing. For each farm we were starting to need five or six different engineers. One knew about water, the other about soil, the other about machinery, and so on. We have reduced the specialization. It was discussed during a meeting with the [word indistinct]. We have worked calmly but with wisdom. [words indistinct].

Like the rector of the university said, it is true that our education is superior to the one that we had [words indistinct]. I do not know students from other countries who study more than our students. [words indistinct] We must create the conditions for our students. This field you study is very important. What will be the limit of the engineers we have? That is relative. At one point, it was also said that we had extra doctors, approximately 25,000 of them. But we said, there are no extra doctors. Wherever man is, there must be a doctor—in the neighborhoods, factories, [words indistinct]. The worst thing that could happen is to have men doing nothing, or killing time in a bloated personnel roster. That is bad. But a man who renders services is invaluable. Sometimes we have an excess of people. The rector was saying this. He said that now there are approximately 200 less. [Castro asks someone in crowd] How many? [reply indistinct] Two hundred and two less, and there is more activity than when the personnel roster was bloated. [passage indistinct] The rector also said he had reduced the deans by half here. There were so many deans. [Castro addresses rector] Now it works, right?

[Rector replies: It works better]

It works better, he says. We must save men; the most valuable resource is men, the human being. But do not save him just to send him home, but to do useful things.

In the same way, some day we will be able to say that we have engineers on reserve so that the other engineers can go on sabbatical. [passage indistinct] We (?don't) want an engineer who will be stuck in an office with air conditioning or a fan, according to the case. We do not want him just sitting up there not knowing what a project, machine, or factory is. We would have extra engineers. But we are taking the engineers where the worker, the machines are. If everyone was an engineer who worked with a machine that would be better. Naturally, we cannot expect to reach that. However, sometimes, I see a machine that is worth 300,000 or 400,000 dollars. We would like to have three engineers on top of the machines. The amount of money invested in the machine, requires it. If there was an engineer for that machine, it would be more productive, it would last longer, and more things could be done with them.

So, the country does not need to worry. [words indistinct] We do not have to worry if enrollment increases. [passage indistinct] He says the enrollment capacity will be for 5,000 students. I hope those students have much better facilities. I hope they have the cafeteria and all the athletic facilities in this university city. [applause] Like Nicolas Guillen would say, I hope this university will have what it needs to have. [passage indistinct]

(?With) the improvement of food in the country we will also improve the food for the students. We are now giving priority to the workers who are working 12 and 14 hours a day, anyone can understand that. There are tens of thousands of workers who are receiving a special quota. One would like to also give the quota to others. There are still those who do very hard work and who do not have the special quota. We hope to some day provide the students with better food.

Right now, we must make progress in what we can. Therefore, I am certain that—unless there is [words indistinct] or special circumstances—our timetable will be fulfilled, and overfulfilled. We will all feel satisfied with this. We will all feel proud. Even those who have

already graduated will be glad to see this, maybe even with a bit of envy because they studied in this unfinished university. I saw some of the medical schools. I visited them when they were under construction. [words indistinct] There were times when there was neither dust nor noise at the sites, because nothing was being done. They were not being finished. We had to stir it up to accelerate the medical schools' constructions. We have now seen them finished, in Pinar del Rio, for example as well as in Sancti Spiritus, or in Camaguey. They are fantastic installations. But it is sad that now that they are finished, we are beginning to reduce enrollment in medical schools.

Despite the fact that the possibility of employing doctors is extensive, we have had to begin to reduce the enrollment number. The number of doctors we have planned for includes those who will serve abroad in the next 10 years. In other words, they will not be underused. We have also raised the level of the career of a nurse to the university level. I can tell you that in a recent inauguration, it was pleasant to see medical and nursing students together. They will be kept busy in the field of nursing. There will be enough room for them. There will be more nursing students than medical students. Furthermore, the tens of thousands of nurses will be able to pursue higher level courses, just like the elementary school teachers are doing. We will have enough positions for all the nurses. If one day we need to limit the enrollment in this career also, [words indistinct], we will have the improvement courses. We would also have room for those who can study after working 7 or 8 consecutive years.

It is very important to retrain our professionals. It is important. It is decisive. One cannot aspire to occupy a worthy place in today's world without constantly retraining professionals. Retraining takes place every 5 or 6 years in the most developed countries. Professionals acquire new knowledge.

As you know computer studies have been introduced at the university level. They have been introduced in midlevel education. They have been introduced in a broad sector of our educational system. We will even have them at the basic secondary school level soon. This is very important.

During meetings of project enterprises, I have seen the efforts being made now to learn about computers. Those who graduated when computer training was not yet available at universities are making an effort. Computers are very useful. They reduce working time. Calculations that took 60 hours now can be done in 2 hours or less with computers. We have to be up to date in all of this. We should be continuously retraining our professionals. Seats will never be empty in this education center. We should not worry about building more.

I am trying to keep my word about not delivering a speech here [chuckles]. I have not delivered one. This is not a speech. We could say this is a scattered analysis of various problems. I would only have to congratulate you for the achievements you are obtaining at the research centers, for the contributions you are making to the national economy in many fields. I hope you have what is needed to boost this task.

I was also happy to hear that you have 18 million [currency not specified] in equipment. We will do everything possible to make sure that you do not lack equipment so that those 100 laboratories can operate, so that you occupy a prominent place among the technological educational centers of the world. I wish you all, workers, students, and professors, many successes. The revolution has placed an unlimited confidence on you as students, as revolutionaries, and as patriots.

You were saying: Hit the Yankees hard! We need to prepare to hit them hard, very hard to see if, once and for all, in the event they attack us one day; they lose that arrogance, they lose that spirit of abuse, that supposed impunity which they now believe they have. This close unity of all our people, workers, peasants, women, students, and even our pioneers.... [changes thought] Because I know that even the pioneers, [corrects himself] or many pioneers, the ones who are 12 or 13 years old, are also capable of defending the fatherland. I am not exaggerating! I say it because I have heard many of them speak during these difficult times, during these days of the attack on Panama. They expressed themselves in such a way, with such clarity and with such feelings that I felt they were defending the fatherland from this age.

Do not forget this! Ideas and ideology are the first trench in the defense of the fatherland. We will be waging the battle, the first battle in the defense of the fatherland by defending firmly and strongly our revolutionary ideology; by fighting against skeptical people and by making them keep their mouths shut; by fighting against divisionists, because the one thing we must defend as a sacred object is the unity of the fatherland. [applause].

By fighting against those who may seek to weaken our unity or to confuse our people, we will be waging the first battle. I saw those pioneers and the extraordinarily eloquent way in which they expressed themselves, the convictions they conveyed. We were looking at soldiers on the front lines. Marti said that trenches of ideas are more valuable than trenches of stones. Let us defend revolutionary ideas; let us defend those ideas because behind them are also trenches of stones. Let us make our ideological trenches and our military trenches to defend our fatherland in trenches as high as the Sierra Maestra, as the Turquino mountain. Socialism or death, fatherland or death, we will win! [applause]

Bahamas

Member of Parliament Receives Appointment

FL0301195090 Bridgetown CANA in English 1403 GMT 3 Jan 90

[Text] Nassau, Bahamas, Jan 3, CANA— Member of Parliament Philip P. Smith has been appointed parliamentary secretary in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Cabinet office announced. Smith, who is the chairman of the Bahamas Quincentennial Commission, will now devote full time to the work of that commission, the announcement said.

Bermuda

Education Spokesman Senator Minors Resigns

FL0301204890 Bridgetown CANA in English 2006 GMT 3 Jan 90

[Text] Hamilton, Bermuda, Jan 3, CANA— Government Senator Reginald Minors has stepped down from the upper house of parliament citing business reasons. Minors, 45, who has served for 4 years as spokesman for education, told Premier Sir John Swan his supplies business was taking up more and more of his time. He told Bermuda's daily newspaper the ROYAL GAZETTE he had resigned with reluctance because of proposed changes in education planned over the next few years.

"There are exciting times ahead and it is something I could have looked forward to if I had stayed on," he said. The departure from the United Bermuda Party team in the Senate gives Swan an opportunity to install a new face in the upper house to match the government's determination to give young people more say in the country's business.

The 11-person Senate consists of 5 government members, 3 from the opposition and 3 independent members appointed by the island's British governor.

Trinidad and Tobago

Minister Says 'Growth in Exports' Expected

FL0301201290 Bridgetown CANA in English 1710 GMT 3 Jan 90

[Text] Port of Spain, Trinidad, Jan 3, CANA— Trinidad and Tobago expect a 4 per cent growth in exports by the mid 1990's, Planning Minister Winston Dookeran has said here. Speaking during debate on the 1990 budget, Dookeran said the government was avoiding the so-called "debt trap" by a debt management strategy and monitoring of the performance of the export-oriented sectors. He said these sectors would provide the funds to service rescheduled loan repayment in the future.

Dookeran predicted that exports would grow by 1.7 per cent this year and by 4 per cent in the mid 1990's. He said that the debt service ratio would be around 22 per cent over the next 2 years, a figure he said was better than the international average of 42 per cent.

Prime Minister A.N.R. Robinson had said last year that the 1990 debt service ratio had been estimated at 25 per cent for 1990. In 1989, Trinidad and Tobago's debt service ratio was estimated at 20.3 per cent. Dookeran said that Trinidad and Tobago had learnt from the mistakes of the past and had established a debt management unit to manage the country's debt portfolio.

He said the unit will ensure among others things, that the quality of the debt profile was right by seeking good terms and conditions on loans and that the money borrowed was used constructively. The unit will also seek to ensure that Trinidad and Tobago has the capacity to meet its obligations in the future, through growth in export earnings.

"The debt situation... does not assume the proportions... that we are in some sort of debt trap," Dookeran said. "By carefully monitoring the situation, the government has escaped," he added.

Defending government's decision to take up its current course of medium and long term borrowing on international financial markets, Dookeran said that Trinidad and Tobago could not expect the world to change to its needs. He said Trinidad and Tobago needed to work out how to "maximise support" for its recovery effort.

Dookeran said the rescheduling of the country's debt, due originally for repayment over the September 1988 to August 1992 period, now allowed Trinidad and Tobago to set its priority right. Giving a rundown of the current debt profile, Dookeran said 46.5 per cent of the foreign debt was in United States dollars, 33 per cent in Japanese yen, and 8.3 per cent [word indistinct] rights from the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

In 1988 Trinidad and Tobago entered into a 14-month IMF standby programme which expires in February, and the government has already announced plans for a second IMF agreement. Dookeran said a World Bank U.S. 80 million dollar Structural Adjustment Loan (SAL) expected to be approved this month, is a 17-year loan package with a 5 year grace period and an interest rate of 7.65 percent.

Dookeran said in the last 10 years, Trinidad and Tobago had borrowed TT 2.96 billion dollars (one TT dollar=23.5 U.S. cents). Even during the oil boom days, Dookeran said Trinidad and Tobago had borrowed U.S. 975 million dollars between 1980 and 1983. He said the present administration has borrowed U.S. 858 million dollars between 1987 to 1989.

Opposition Criticizes Government's 1990 Budget

FL0301142290 Bridgetown CANA in English 2206 GMT 2 Jan 90

[By Debra Ransome]

[Text] Port of Spain, Trinidad, Jan 2, CANA— Opposition leader Patrick Manning on Tuesday blasted the government's 1990 budget as empty and said it would widen deprivation. Manning, leader of the People's National Movement (PNM), began a noisy debate on Finance Minister Selby Wilson's December 22 budget presentation by saying the administration had used "gimmickry" to promote the idea of an economic turnaround. "The much vaunted turnaround is much more of a tailspin," Manning told the House of Representatives.

He characterised the TT 7 billion dollar budget package as being historic for its "emptiness" and predicted an "extended season of deprivation." Depicting government ministers as "genuflecting" to international investors the opposition leader said: "I feel we are in danger of losing our country."

Manning, citing the official 1989 review of the economy showing the decline in a number of economic performance criteria, said the whole package showed the economy depending more on the energy sector than ever before as other areas declined. The former energy minister described government's hopes for local borrowing in 1990 as "wishful thinking" and went on to knock the administration's tax reforms which he said actually benefited higher rather than lower income groups.

Government has shifted the tax base from direct to indirect taxation, cutting income tax levels for the introduction of a broad-based goods and service Value Added Tax (VAT). Claiming that his party had consulted with local business, Manning said the goods which would go down under VAT would be apples, grapes, peaches, jewelry, batteries for electronic cameras, while goods going up on price included coffee, corn beef, sardines, and other tinned food, saltfish, matches, and gas. "It is more than inequity," Manning said. "It is iniquity."

On the issue of unemployment, Manning said government was worsening the situation by its cuts in public sector and public utility jobs. Accusing government of having no policy on unemployment, Manning said: "People just have to wait and they cannot postpone their hunger until the government's policies bear fruit in the year 2000."

Manning accused government of cutting protection for the manufacturing sector, depressing production, and now freeing up imports under a World Bank structural adjustment loan. "In this age of dog eat dog world, free trade is a myth and effectively means access by others to your markets.... Protection is necessary....," Manning said.

Attorney General Demands Better U.S. Treatment

PA3012025689 Mexico City Red Nacional 13 Imevision Television in Spanish 1300 GMT 16 Dec 89

[Text] Attorney General Enrique Alvarez del Castillo today said Mexico demands a preferential, more equitable treatment in its commercial relations with the United States. He said that because the U.S. Government has recognized and praised Mexico's efforts against drug trafficking, it would only be fair for the United States to apply a more flexible commercial policy, particularly regarding farm products.

In a news conference, the attorney general said this international phenomenon affects consumer countries like the United States more. Mexico, however, has assumed a serious and determined attitude using large expenditures and, particularly, a great number of human lives, in preventing drug traffickers from marketing their drugs and poisoning millions of people.

Alvarez said Mexico will continue to do its best in this never ending struggle against the production and marketing of drugs.

Government Secretary Views Electoral Violence

PA0301155190 Mexico City Red Nacional 13 Imevision Television in Spanish 1308 GMT 3 Jan 90

[Report by Judith Alamo]

[Text] Given the violent incidents in Guerrero and Michoacan, Government Secretary Fernando Gutierrez Barrios has emphasized that the country has the appropriate legal procedures for settling any problem through consultations and dialogues.

Government Secretary Barrios urged all the political parties to join efforts and avoid violent incidents for electoral reasons. He warned that no one, regardless of their party, can possibly win with violence what has been lost in an election.

Gutierrez Barrios said the national government and the state authorities have instructions from the president of the Republic to respect the people's vote and to avoid acts of violence. He believes the incidents in Coyuca de Benitez, Guerrero State, were caused by lack of control.

Gutierrez Barrios urged political parties to opt for consultations and dialogues, and pointed out that there are permanent legal procedures for overcoming any type of problem. He emphasized that violence is not the solution and added that the government secretariat is participating in a dialogue with the various political parties to settle the problem of the municipal offices' takeover, both in Guerrero and Michoacan.

PRD, PRI Members Clash in Guerrero 1 January

PA0301131090 Paris AFP in Spanish 2341 GMT 2 Jan 90

[Text] Mexico City, 2 Jan (AFP)— Party of the Democratic Revolution (leftist PRD) spokesman Ricardo Pascoe reported today that a clash between PRI [Institutional Revolutionary Party] and PRD members occurred on 1 January. The clash took place in Coyuca de Benitez, [word indistinct] km to the south of Mexico City, and left four persons dead and eight wounded.

Machine guns, Molotov cocktails, and dynamite sticks were used in the clash that occured when several PRI followers shot three PRD members to death. The PRD members were protesting the alledged fraud at the 3 December municipal elections.

"The PRD members became enraged because the murderers, who are drug traffickers, took refuge in the house of a PRI leader. That is why they burned it down," said Pascoe to AFP.

The PRD spokesman said "the incident occurred when outgoing PRI municipal officials and their friends, the area's drug-trafficking gunmen, attacked members of our party. This shows the complicity between municipal PRI officials and drug traffickers."

On 1 January, 277 new mayors were sworn into their posts throughout the country.

The new mayors are from the States of Aguascalientes, Guerrero, Sinaloa, and Michoacan, but except for Coyuca de Benitez, no serious incidents took place in those states.

The swearing-in ceremony of the town's new mayor did not take place because of the incidents and because both parties claimed they had won the elections.

"We did not throw dynamite or Molotov cocktails. They were the ones who burned part of the house to confuse everyone," said David Molina, who is a member of the PRD and a participant in the incidents, to AFP.

"If we had been armed as the government claims, we would not have suffered the casualties we did," said Molina, who admitted that his associates hurled sticks and stones at the house.

Supporters of the PRD in the state of Guerrero, in which Coyuca de Benitez is located, have occupied 17 mayor's offices to protest the official results confirming the PRI candidates as the winners.

The PRD spokesman said his party will ask the Chamber of Deputies to investigate Jose Francisco Ruiz Massieu, governor of the state of Guerrero.

Alleged Drug Traffickers Involved

FL0201160590 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1526 GMT 2 Jan 90

[Text] Coyuca de Benitez, Mexico, 2 Jan (NOTIMEX)—An attack by alleged drug traffickers on members of the Party of the Democratic Revolution, (PRD) has left four dead and five injured in this Guerrero State town. According to authorities, the attack took place at 0255 yesterday and was followed by an armed confrontation.

Apparently, the drug traffickers shot at the PRD members at point-blank range. The PRD members were at a camp that followers of their party have maintained for over a month to protest an alleged electoral fraud.

The attackers, Roberto Vargas—pointed out by the government and the population as a known drug trafficker—Genaro Chavez, official of the vital statistics office; and Ramiro Navarrete, head of the government, both on the outgoing town council, sought cover at a private home. PRD members threw over 100 Molotov cocktails at the patio of the house where the armed men took refuge. The armed men repelled the siege by firing shots.

Two dynamite explosions were also reported in the area, but it is not known if they were caused by the attackers or by the PRD members.

For the moment, it is not known why the alleged drug traffickers attacked the opposition PRD members.

PRD Blocks Road Between Oaxaca, Mexico City

FL0301154090 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0400 GMT 3 Jan 90

[Text] Oaxaca, Mexico, 2 Jan (NOTIMEX)—2 Jan (NOTIMEX)—Antonio Hernandez Fraguas, undersecretary of interior, reported today that followers of the Party of the Democratic Revolution (PRD) have blocked the road to Cristobal Colon at Telixtlahuaca Municipality. He added that the PRD was protesting because of an alleged violation of the agreement reached with the Institutional Revolutionary Party [PRI] to create a coalition government in the city.

He asserted that last 30 December the PRI and the PRD agreed, in front of the General Interior Secretariat and the Chamber of Deputies, to create a town council that would make Telixtlahuca Municipality governable. According to the agreement, the mayoralty, the administrative syndic position, and three councillorships would go to the PRI and the justice syndic post and four councillorships would go the the PRD.

The official said the agreement was not complied with by the two sides because they acted with instransigence and radicalized their positions. He added that the state government is negotiating with the two parties to put an end to the action that is blocking the road that links the southern Mexican State of Oaxaca with Mexico City.

Costa Rica

Panama Government Requires No Special Recognition

PA0201222590 San Jose Radio Impacto in Spanish 1853 GMT 2 Jan 90

[Text] Costa Rican Foreign Minister Rodrigo Madrigal Nieto said there will be no explicit act of recognition of new Panamanian President Guillermo Endara.

[Begin Madrigal recording] There will be nothing special beyond what we are already doing. We are maintaining our normal, unaltered relations with the new government. As I have said several times before, according to the Estrada Doctrine, which all Latin American countries have observed for several years—and Costa Rica is no exception—we either maintain relations with the government in power or we do not maintain them, but there is no need for a special act of recognition. [end recording]

What is happening in our country is that sometimes people go by their emotions, and most Costa Ricans are pleased to see Noriega leave. That is why they want explicit recognition to take place, but actually we are doing the proper thing, Madrigal Nieto said.

Opposition Urges Government To Recognize Endara

PA0301220590 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1951 GMT 3 Jan 90

[Text] San Jose, 3 Jan (ACAN-EFE)—The Costa Rican opposition party, the Social Christian Unity Party (PUSC), today continued to exert pressure on the Oscar Arias Government to "immediately" recognize Guillermo Endara as President of Panama. Costa Rican opposition leader Rafael Angel Calderon Fournier said during his first news conference in 1990 that the Arias Government has no reason for not yet explicitly recognizing the new Panamanian regime.

The Endara's triumph in the May 1989 elections was recognized a week ago by the Panamanian Electoral Tribunal and he was then legally sworn in. After this, it has received the support even of those who comprised the deposed government, Calderon Fournier noted.

For the Social Christian leader, it is a "duty and an honor" to give diplomatic support to Endara and his government and to send an ambassador to present his credentials as the Costa Rican representative.

Calderon Fournier expects to win the 4 February elections and to take over the presidency of the Republic for 4 years, as successor to Oscar Arias on 8 May.

Calderon Fournier is facing Carlos Manuel Castillo from the ruling Social Democratic National Liberation Party.

El Salvador

FMLN Ends Truce, Resumes Military Operations

PA0301151090 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1413 GMT 3 Jan 90

[Text] San Salvador, 3 Jan (ACAN-EFE)—Salvadoran guerrilla organizations today announced the end of the military truce that had been in effect since 23 December because of the Christmas and New Year festivities.

Rebel sources in San Salvador reported that the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front (FMLN) military forces will renew their actions against national economy targets today.

The Armed Forces have constantly accused the guerrilla forces of failing to fulfill their own truce by attacking positions in Chalatenango Department, north of the country, and blowing up at least eight electric towers in the central and eastern zones of El Salvador.

According to the Armed Forces Press Committee [Coprefa], at least 50 people have died, mostly guerrilla fighters, during the last 2 weeks throughout several areas of the country.

FDR Leader Ungo on Government, FMLN

PY0301232490 Montevideo LA HORA POPULAR in Spanish 26 Dec 89 p 11

[Report by Jose Luis Martinez]

[Text] Guillermo Ungo, head of the Salvadoran Revolutionary Democratic Front (FDR), said the current Salvadoran Government is in the hands of President Alfredo Cristiani and the most ultrarightist and fascist sectors of the Armed Forces.

Ungo, who represents the sectors that oppose the current government of the rightist National Republican Alliance (ARENA), said in an exclusive interview granted to LA HORA POPULAR in Buenos Aires that the hegemony of the right leads to ever increasing levels of intolerance, repression, and hatred of the democratic sectors that seek a solution to the Salvadoran situation.

Ungo said that El Salvador is clearly a police state, with characteristics of a military dictatorship, in which the military prevails over the civilians in a fascist way that leads to the persecution and murder of opposition members, and acts of terrorism against them.

These crimes, Ungo added, are also committed against foreigners who work at humanitarian tasks; nuns, priests, and other members of the clergy; leaders of humanitarian organizations; labor union leaders; and opposition politicians.

This state terrorism has caused the death of the Catholic University Jesuit priests, among others, Ungo said.

Ungo, who is also the chairman of the El Salvador National Revolutionary Movement (MNR), said that previously they could hold talks with the government, but that currently, there are no relations between the two parties. He added that there has been a clear strengthening of the police state, concurrent with the political and military deterioration of the government resulting from the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front (FMLN) guerrilla actions.

In view of its impotence, Ungo explained, the government reacts violently against all sectors, except the FMLN—which the government is not strong enough to attack and by which it is always being attacked—and takes revenge on us.

A paradoxical fact about El Salvador is that it is more risky to be there than in Santiago, Chile, where—despite the fact that Pinochet is still in office—one is safer and runs fewer risks of death.

Asked about possible disagreements between the FDR and FMLN regarding actions against the current Salvadoran Government, Ungo said: The ties between the FDR and the FMLN are weakened, but we still have similar objectives. The difference is that there is more independence and autonomy in our pursuit of agreements with all the political sectors—including the Christian Democratic Party—to oust the fascist government.

The Salvadoran opposition politician said there are some differences, such as those resulting from the FMLN decision to suspend the talks, but I do not believe this to be the problem. The main difficulty is that the ARENA government is against all (?negotiations).

The FMLN also had differences with us, Ungo added, when we took part in the elections and they did not. This fact affected us because it reduced the number of votes we received.

What we propose now—and in this we agree with the FMLN—is to seek a national accord, to resume the talks for a real negotiation in which all the opposition political forces and the FMLN take part, to reach a national accord among most sectors of the Salvadoran society.

Ungo, who is also the vice president of the Permanent Conference of Latin American Political Parties (COPPPAL), said that pressure must be exerted at the diplomatic level, and at all international forums, to force the United States to modify its policies—which are a basic factor for the continuation of the war. We believe that international cooperation is necessary but, in this case, not enough.

He said: we demand an immediate cease-fire and real negotiations for a peaceful solution to the problem. We believe that the Group of Eight, the OAS, and the United Nations have been working on a solution, and that is important. However, all this must be coordinated so that the actions of the three organizations complement each other, the Salvadoran leader said.

Nicaragua

Expelled Members of 'CIA Team' Leave Nicaragua

PA0301131690 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 2 Jan 90 pp 1, 5

[Text] The 20 U.S. diplomats, who were expelled by the Nicaraguan Government in response to the outrage committed against the Nicaraguan ambassador to Panama's residence, left the country aboard a commercial plane last night.

The U.S. officials were seen off at the air terminal by John Leonard, the charge d'affaires of the U.S. Embassy in Managua. Several of the expelled diplomats left with their wives, children, and maids. Two officials of the Nicaraguan Foreign Ministry provided protocolary assistance at the airport.

The officials were seen off at a walkway along the runway and a few meters from the plane with kisses, embraces, handshakes, and smiles.

The expulsion of diplomats constitutes a heavy blow to the U.S. Embassy, because virtually the entire CIA team in Nicaragua left on that plane.

Therefore, the main officials assigned to special operations within the Nicaraguan electoral process were unexpectedly removed.

One of these officials is Valentino Martinez, the direct link to Alfredo Cesar. As is known, Cesar is the man chosen by the U.S. Government to represent its interests in the electoral process.

Other officials have worked closely with the National Opposition Union (UNO). As you might recall, Ambassador Richard Melton and several diplomats were expelled after violent incidents in 1988 in Nandaime.

At that time, the CIA was seriously hit, but they had the opportunity to replace their agents. The change jeopardized the CIA's operations drastically as the new agents had to begin making contacts and arranging missions again.

Now, the situation is more complicated as the Nicaraguan Government's decision determined that the personnel that were expelled cannot be replaced. Nicaragua has stipulated that the maximum number of diplomatic personnel in the U.S. mission is to be 75.

This is the exact number of diplomats that remain in Managua, including Leonard and his wife, who have the rank of political officials.

Last night, Leonard stated to a MINEX [Foreign Affairs Ministry] official that they still have not finished selecting the administrative and services personnel that are to stay in the embassy.

Nicaraguan authorities have decreed that personnel in these fields, which presently amount to 320, must be

reduced to 100. The measures are part of the government's response to the U.S. actions in Panama.

During the U.S. invasion of Panama, Yankee troops murdered a Nicaraguan, arrested 200 Nicaraguans for several days, surrounded the Nicaraguan Embassy, and finally, raided the ambassador's residence. At the diplomat's residence they knocked down the ambassador and other officials and even stole several items.

Most of the U.S. diplomats expelled from the country commented among themselves last night that the Nicaraguan Government's response had been moderate and that they were fully aware of the seriousness of the outrages committed in Panama.

Columnist on Past CIA-Noriega Ties

PA0301132390 Managua EL NUEVO DIARIO in Spanish 2 Jan 90 p 8

[From the "End Focus" column]

[Text] We deem it of great importance to disclose some details—minimum details at that—on relations between the U.S. Government and General Manuel Antonio Noriega, clearly showing the false nature of the moralist argument imperialism has used over the past 2 years to persecute the Panamanian general, the chief target of a savage invasion of a sovereign Latin American nation.

A HEARST NEWS SERVICE investigation revealed that when Bush took over the CIA in 1976, he suspended the $200,000 a year payment the agency was giving to Noriega. According to the charges made today against Noriega, his drug trafficking activities preceded that date. Therefore, either the mighty CIA ignored its general's doings—something very hard to believe—or it cared more about the services Noriega was rendering to it than about the much-vaunted crusade against drug trafficking.

About 2 months after the aforementioned suspension, Noriega flew to the United States and met with Bush at the CIA. The yearly payment was renewed, and even in 1983 when Reagan was President, then Vice President Bush was willing to be photographed with Gen. Noriega.

According to the DEA, Noriega's ties to drug trafficking go back to 1973, meaning that as vice president, Bush never objected to keeping his paid relationship with the Panamanian general.

In 1986, Noriega met with then White House aide Lt Col Oliver North in London.

Later Elliot Abrams, then assistant secretary of state for inter-American affairs, reported that at the meeting "Noriega said he was willing to undertake activities to support the Nicaraguan contras if we agreed to clean up his image in the United States."

CIA agent Dewey Clarridge, alias Dewey Maroni, then said that in Panama "Noriega plays both sides and has a comfortable relationship with the Cubans, which is an advantage and a disadvantage for the CIA because Noriega at times provides good Cuban intelligence."

Those remarks are included in the book "Veil: The CIA Secret Wars 1981-1987," by Bob Woodward, the Watergate reporter.

"However, Noriega is going to let the CIA establish a contra training ground here. The installation must be kept secret at almost any cost. If it is leaked, Noriega will have reason to close and reject the training ground," Woodward wrote.

The news was leaked and hailed by the reactionary press, including Managua's LA PRENSA, which welcomed this discovery of a new ally against the Sandinists. It never remotely occurred to them at that time to say all the rubbish they now say against Noriega.

The Panamanian general backed out after the leak, and so came the pressure, the indictment, the vilification, and the rest of the history we all know.

We said at the start that those are the minimum details that may come out at Noriega's trial, should he arrive alive in the United States.

Commentary Views U.S. Intervention in Panama

PA0401014390 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 2007 GMT 3 Jan 89

[Commentary by Onofre Guevara: "The Right Wing Supports the Game of Intervention"]

[Text] The lack of condemnation of the invasion of Panama by the right-wing coalition UNO [National Opposition Union] and its main mouthpiece LA PRENSA, the position of which is rather to justify the invasion with all sort of arguments—which usually come from the invaders' own propagandistic arsenal—lifts the last fig leaf concealing the shame of being an opposition force hired by the United States. Indeed, 2 weeks have already passed since the brutal violation of the Panamanian sovereignty was perpetrated. The United States is threatening to extend its occupation indefinitely. However, the mercenary opposition sectors have shown no interest in changing their view of the U.S. banditry. On the contrary, everything shows their conformity and something else—interest in making its followers believe that the imperialist intervention in Panama is a positive action and a means to bring peace and democracy.

What they actually seek with such great cynicism is to create similarities between the Panamanian situation and the Nicaraguan situation. According to the right-wing anti-patriotic intentions, there are parallels that would have to end with another invasion, of our country. For such wicked intentions, the pro-U.S. right wing and its spokesmen are intensifying the their persistent distortion of our reality, precisely in the terms and measures by which they are trying to justify the crime of high treason against Panamanian sovereignty. In other words,

by basically using the same arguments Violeta Barrios de Chamorro expressed in her new year message: Where there are no violations of human rights, and if imperialism recognizes a specific country as a democratic, free, and honest country, then no one would touch that country. To touch—in the language used by imperialists and politicians at the service of imperialism—is in this political situation a synonym for aggression.

In other words, this statement maintains that the United States has the power to determine if there is democracy in a country, and in the event a country does not deserve to be called a democracy, can touch it—that is, attack it. Obviously, they are thinking about Panama and Nicaragua. It happens that the counterrevolutionary groups headed by Violeta Barrios de Chamorro, as chosen in the United States, have staged their anti-Sandinist propaganda saying exactly that—there is no democracy in Nicaragua, nor is there liberty and honesty. With this stance, the right wing is demanding that imperialism touch us with their [words indistinct] and with everything from the imperialist power that could serve to eliminate the revolution in Nicaragua.

The complementary argument for this criminal proposal is to hypocritically say that the right wing feels threatened by the communique issued by the Sandinist People's Army Command. Along with the messages and news on a lack of democracy, according to the U.S. interests in our country, members of the opposition act like victims of an alleged threat. Meanwhile, the armed counterrevolutionaries continue to cause more deaths. Everything seems to indicate that the hired right wing at this time is shamelessly playing the Panamanian style. No one will prevent the right wing from doing so, but the majority of the people will show them they can play better in the Nicaraguan style, since the times of Sandino and at all times when it has decided it wants to be free.

Further Comments Surrounding Killing of Two Nuns

Ortega Asks U.S. To Condemn Killing

PA0401065590 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0346 GMT 4 Jan 90

[Text] Masatepe (Nicaragua), 3 Jan (ACAN-EFE)—Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega today asked the U.S. Government to condemn the killing of two nuns and the wounding of U.S. Bishop Pablo Smith and another indigenous nun in an attack which he attributed to the contras.

"This crime must be condemned by the U.S. Government if it truly wants peace in Central America and wants Nicaragua to continue the electoral process under minimum conditions of normalcy," Ortega stated.

The Sandinist president spoke tonight in Masatepe, 60 km southeast of Managua, resuming his electoral campaign, which he had suspended since 24 December.

"The least the Yankee government can do is suspend the so-called humanitarian aid to the contras—accused by the Nicaraguan Government of being responsible for the attack—and deliver that money to the United Nations for the demobilization of the mercenaries who are in Honduras," Ortega stated.

He said that the United States is transferring weapons it was keeping on the Honduran Island of El Cisne to the Honduran contra camps to avert international observation.

For its part, the National Opposition Union (UNO), which groups 14 parties, today "strongly" condemned the "abominable assassination" of U.S. nun Maureen Courtney, and Nicaraguan nun Teresa Rosales.

The Nicaraguan Resistance has denied having participated in the ambush in which the two nuns were killed.

Wounded in the same attack were Msgr Smith, U.S. auxiliary bishop of the Atlantic city of Bluefields, 47, and Nicaraguan nun Francisca Colomer.

"Whoever instigated and perpetrated that cowardly assassination, regardless of their overt or covert reason for the crime, deserve the repudiation of all the Nicaraguan people," a UNO statement published today by LA PRENSA, opposition newspaper in Managua, said.

Violeta Chamorro, UNO presidential candidate, asked the government of President Daniel Ortega today for an "in-depth investigation" of the "repugnant crime."

The statement denounced the "suspected connection that some official (government) media have tried to establish between the crime of the nuns and the civic and peaceful electoral activity of UNO."

Chamorro advised "not jumping to any conclusions on who could have been (the authors of the crime) until the facts are cleared up objectively and in a nonpolitical matter."

"I find it hard to imagine who could have perpetrated such a crime, much less in a premeditated manner, unleashing their fury on defenseless nuns," Chamorro added.

Cardinal Obando y Bravo Condemns Attack

PA0301161190 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1222 GMT 3 Jan 90

[Text] Cardinal Miguel Obando y Bravo on 2 January condemned the criminal action carried out by FDN [Nicaraguan Democratic Front] members who killed nuns Maureen Courtney and Teresa Rosales, a Nicaraguan Miskito indian.

[Begin recording] [Obando] I only have the information I received from the president this afternoon. He informed me about this ambush. I think we must condemn those who did this. Life must be guarded,

defended, and promoted. Nicaraguans must say no to war and yes to peace. These are abominable actions that call for our repudiation.

[Reporter] You urged Nicaraguans to vote for a party that advocated unity and peace. What party is this?

[Obando] Bishops must not get involved in party politics. As a pastor, I guide Nicaraguans and recommended to them to tone down verbal violence. However, it is not my duty to tell them what party to vote for. I am a pastor for all Nicaraguans. [end recording]

Asked if the Episcopal Conference would issue a statement on the attack which resulted in the wounding of Msgr Pablo Smith and Sister Francisca Colomer, the prelate said:

[Begin recording] [Obando] The president of the Episcopal Conference is Msgr Salvador Shaeffer. He can gather that body anytime to issue statements.

[Reporter] Where are you going?

[Obando] I am heading north to attend a meeting.

[Reporter] Are you going to the United States?

[Obando] Yes. [end recording]

The representative of the Nicaraguan Catholic Church was approached by reporters a few moments before he boarded a LACSA [Costa Rican Airlines] plane that was to take him to the United States.

Episcopal Conference Condemns Slaying

PA0401141290 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1236 GMT 4 Jan 90

[Text] The Episcopal Conference of Nicaragua on 3 January condemned the 1 January contra ambush which resulted in the assassination of two nuns and the wounding of Bluefields Auxiliary Bishop Pablo Smith and a Miskito Indian nun. A communique from the Episcopal Conference states its surprise at the new criminal action perpetrated exactly at a time when the world drive for peace is underway.

The country's highest-ranking Catholic organization demands peace in its communique, which was signed by Monsignor Salvador Schaeffer, bishop of Bluefields and president of the Episcopal Conference; and by Monsignor Bosco Vivas, auxiliary bishop of Managua.

Maureen Courtney, a U.S. nun, and Teresa Rosales, a Nicaraguan nun, died in the ambush; and Francisca Colomer, a Miskito Indian nun, and Bishop Pablo Smith were wounded.

UNO Spokesman Deplores Deaths

PA0301212190 Managua Radio Catolica in Spanish 1130 GMT 3 Jan 90

[Commentary by station commentator Luis Sanchez Sancho, Nicaraguan Socialist Party deputy, and spokesman of the National Opposition Union (UNO); date and place not given—recorded]

[Text] The murder of the two nuns during an ambush in which Msgr Pablo Smith and other people were wounded must be condemned. Any form of violence against human beings must be repudiated. However, this action is much more execrable because, claiming to use political or military power, the criminals resorted to an ambush, hiding in the shadows, to attack peaceful and unarmed people. Nothing can justify murder. There is no political cause or party banner that can find justification in crime. Those who carried out this abominable murder in an area between Siuna and Alamikamba must be rejected without any hesitation.

Most Nicaraguans advocate peace, repudiate military build-ups, and reject violence derived from hatred, intolerance, and the unbridled greed to seize and keep power.

The Nicaraguan people and the international community support peaceful and democratic elections as a civilized solution for our problems and differences. Within this context, the armed actions that lead to crimes—such as the nuns' murder—only serve to justify new and endless violence. In like fashion, the threat to kill political adversaries, accusing them of being turncoats, can only serve to obstruct the electoral process, which must be peaceful and tolerant to be just and democratic.

Let us hope that the nuns' blood will serve to redeem the Nicaraguan people. Let us hope that the government and the contras will meditate and decide to respect the country's majority which wants peace, instead of war; tolerance, instead of hatred; respect for life, instead of murder; and freedom, instead of imposition whatever the origin.

Godoy: EPS May Be Responsible

PA0301224590 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 2000 GMT 3 Jan 90

[Text] While patriotic sectors of the country condemn the cowardly assassination of the nuns of the Order of St Agnes and clearly blame the Somozist counterrevolutionaries for the crime, Dr Virgilio Godoy, UNO [National Opposition Union] vice presidential candidate, blamed the Sandinist Government for the crimes and confessed he was a supporter and a member of the mercenary forces without any qualms.

[Begin recording] [Reporter] What is the position of this political organization with regard to this new crime perpetrated by the counterrevolutionary forces?

[Godoy] This last statement is your statement only. Our position is that this crime should be condemned from any viewpoint, but there were many suspicious circumstances surrounding the incident, which lead us to even believe that government forces may have committed the crime.

[Reporter] Dr Godoy, what is the evidence you have to make that statement?

[Godoy] The only ones who were there when the crime was committed were government troops, and we have seen a communique issued by the Nicaraguan Resistance [RN] saying they do not have military units operating in that region.

[Reporter] Do you have any witnesses to state that only army troops were there at the time of the crime?

[Godoy] That is what the lieutenant colonels said yesterday. Therefore, if we listen to what they say and if we listen to what their military counterparts from the RN are saying, we are led to believe that things are not the way they were presented to the public. We are at least doubtful. In any case, regardless of who committed the crime, it should be strongly condemned.

[Reporter] Does this mean that you are more prone to believe the RN sources?

[Godoy] Well, it would be like asking you, as member of a government source, if you are more prone to believe the statements of the colonels and the army.

FSLN Urges UNO To Sign Document

PA0401140190 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 4 Jan 89

[Text] The Sandinist National Liberation Front [FSLN] has again issued a call to the National Opposition Union [UNO] to sign a document in which the country's political sectors urge the mercenary groups to stop committing acts of terror which might interrupt the electoral process.

Commander Bayardo Arce, on behalf of the FSLN, issued the call to the UNO members in the wake of the most recent contra action in which two nuns were killed and Msgr Pablo Smith was wounded.

The revolutionary leader's call was also extended to the Independent Liberal Party for National Unity, PLIUN, which has also refused to sign the document condemning the contras' acts of vandalism and terrorism.

UNO Denies Negotiations With Sandinists

PA0301214890 Managua Radio Corporacion in Spanish 1200 GMT 3 Jan 90

[Text] National Opposition Union [UNO] vice presidential candidate Virgilio Godoy publicly recognized last evening that he has been subjected to pressure to abandon the electoral campaign. Godoy did not specify how the pressure had been exerted or by whom, but he indicated that the pressure had been exerted in the plural, which would indicate that the pressure is directed at UNO in general.

It was recently learned that members of UNO's political council met with members of the Sandinist directorate, but there was no information on the topics discussed during the meetings. The reports were denied by Mrs Violeta de Chamorro's advisers, who said that no negotiations are being held with the Sandinists and that an electoral process is necessary before negotiations take place.

The statement was made last evening at the corner by El Amparo Funeral Home following a rally with people of the Tenderi residential area and the Eastern San Jose neighborhood. The rallies of people living in Managua neighborhoods are organized on a daily basis by the territorial organization led by Engineer Jaime Cabalceta. UNO is scheduled to hold a rally at the Central American neighborhood, Ruben Dario Avenue, and Rafael Herrera Street.

UNO Asks CSE To Sanction Humberto Ortega

PA0301230590 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 3 Jan 90

[Letter from the National Opposition Union, UNO, to the Supreme Electoral Council, CSE, date and place not given]

[Text] Honorable Supreme Electoral Council:

Incidents that are as unacceptable as they are painfully astonishing are undoubtedly happening in Nicaragua, our beloved fatherland. When it seemed the violence obviously perpetrated by FSLN [Sandinist National Liberation Front] members against UNO had subsided, unfair individual pressure immediately arose against UNO candidates to the National Assembly, municipal and regional councilmen, leaders and activists, and members to force them to resign from their respective duties.

We know the results thanks to the progovernment media coverage. Some fearful candidates resigned as part of a crass yet efficient ploy. The pressure continued, now at a higher tone, as it involved the well-being of the presidential candidates and national leaders. Violeta Barrios de Chamorro and Virgilo Godoy have received serious and continuous death threats. Emilio Alvarez Montalvan, Augustin Jarquin Araya, and Luis Sanchez Sancho have also received blatant threats. When the person writing this letter drove out of his home, he was followed and photographed many times on two different occasions by four persons in a Lada car without license plates.

This is evidently the result of the okay given by Defense Minister Humberto Ortega, a fact that has been reported all over the world. Point three of a communique he issued harshly threatened to annihilate UNO leaders,

clearly violating our political constitution, our penal laws, and Article 196 paragraph 4 of the electoral law. Overstepping his authority, the defense minister is disobeying—without reason—the CSE by violating Article 197, Section 2, of the electoral law. The minister's attitude is deceitfully hampering the current electoral process and, chiefly, the political parties to which the persons under threat belong. According to Article 151 of the electoral law, these persons have public rights, and in this case, the political parties' members are especially protected by constitutional guarantees, chiefly during an electoral process, which is the case now.

His attitude also violates Article 198, Paragraph 5, of said law because in the aforementioned communique, the minister is hampering with his threats the current elections by curtailing electoral freedom. For these reasons, and on direct instructions from the UNO Political Council—based on the aforementioned articles—I ask that the CSE, as empowered by the electoral law in Article 10, Sections 4 and 6, and Article 203, and in accordance with Article 200, order the General Attorney's Office to proceed to take the penal action that corresponds to the electoral crimes mentioned in the law and specified in this letter. The CSE should undertake procedures that correspond to its duties against Humberto Ortega Saavedra, defense minister, army general, married adult, and officer on duty, before the military court so that it proceeds to resolve this case by ruling against the minister, in accordance with the law.

I remain cordially yours,

Hernaldo Zuniga, UNO legal representative

CSE Asks for Explanation of Communique Threats

PA0301173790 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1546 GMT 3 Jan 90

[Text] Managua, 3 Jan (ACAN-EFE)—Mariano Fiallos, president of the Supreme Electoral Council [CSE] today asked Defense Minister Humberto Ortega to explain "the threats" made by the Sandinist Army to "execute" the "traitorous" members of the opposition if there is a U.S. invasion.

The CSE, which is directing the electoral process, said that it is "deeply worried" because the Army communique issued on 27 December "restricts rights and guarantees established" in the Constitution.

According to Fiallos, those guarantees are necessary to the development of the electoral procees, which ends with the 25 February elections.

The communique issued by the Army general command orders its troops to follow orders of "neutralization, curbing and executing diehard and traitorous" members of the opposition if there is a U.S. invasion.

The CSE today published a letter addressed to Gen Humberto Ortega asking him "to explain the meaning and scope" of the communique, which according to the opposition is "practically a death threat."

The CSE claims that it needs this explanation from the authorities to "be better informed regarding the complaints and concerns expressed to the president of the council about this matter."

The CSE, based on the country's laws and the electoral code demands "from the corresponding bodies, conditions of security for all the political parties participating in the elections."

After the U.S. troops invaded Panama on 20 December, the Sandinist government ordered a general alert and the deployment of troops throughout Nicaragua in view of the danger of a U.S. invasion.

UNO Reportedly Downplays Chamorro's Accident

PA0301153990 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1219 GMT 3 Jan 90

[Text] Spokesmen of the pro-U.S. UNO [National Opposition Union] are trying to downplay the importance of the accident suffered by Violeta Barrios, who broke her right leg on 2 Janauary.

Mrs. Barrios is leaving for the United States today to receive medical treatment. She has already been treated by Nicaraguan specialists who apparently did not satisfy her.

Barrios' absence could last for several weeks because she needs constant specialized medical attention.

In December, Barrios travelled to the United States and spent 1 week at a private clinic in Houston while being treated for osteoporosis.

Defense Ministry Reports Recent Clashes

PA0301134490 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2358 GMT 2 Jan 90

[Text] Managua, 2 Jan (ACAN-EFE)—The Defense Ministry has announced that the Nicaraguan Army killed 12 contras and wounded 9 others in clashes during the final days of 1989.

According to the source, five clashes were staged between 29 and 31 December in northern and southern Nicaragua—and in the Caribbean area where a group of rebels killed two nuns, one American and the other Nicaraguan.

Also wounded in the attack were Monsignor Pablo Smith, the auxiliary bishop of Bluefields, a city in Nicaragua's Atlantic area, and Nun Francisca Colomer, a Nicaraguan.

The heaviest clash between government troops and anti-Sandinists took place on 29 December in Kuscawas, Matagalpa in northern Nicaragua where five contras were killed and six others were wounded.

Seven other contras were killed in clashes in northern Nicaragua, the South Atlantic, and Rio San Juan on the Costa Rican border on 30 and 31 December.

The contras, meanwhile, killed two civilians in the South Atlantic and kidnapped seven others in Rio San Juan and in the southern Caribbean area, the Defense Ministry stated.

Panama

Noriega Surrenders to U.S. Authorities 3 Jan

PA0401024490 Panama City Circuito RPC Radio in Spanish 0229 GMT 4 Jan 90

[Text] Friendly television viewers [as heard] of the country, here is a last-minute report. Barely a few minutes ago the former commander of the Panama Defense Forces [FDP] Manuel Antonio Noriega surrendered to the U.S. authorities at the Apostolic Nunciature in Panama.

We repeat the information. Former FDP Commander Manuel Antonio Noriega surrendered to U.S. authorities at the Apostolic Nunciature in Panama. According to the reports obtained by RPC Television that the press agencies, including ACAN-EFE are disseminating, two U.S. Army South helicopters took Noriega to a headquarters on the canal banks. According to the reports obtained by RPC Television, former General Manuel Antonio Noriega surrendered a few minutes ago to U.S. authorities. No further details have been learned. Meanwhile, tight military vigilance is maintained around the Apostolic Nunciature in Panama.

Nunciature Communique Cited

PA0401033390 Panama City Circuito RPC Radio in Spanish 0305 GMT 4 Jan 90

[Text] Another last-minute report we have is that General Manuel Antonio Noriega surrendered tonight to the U.S. troops that were surrounding the Apostolic Nunciature, where he had taken refuge since 24 December. The report caused a veritable carnival, with thousands of persons celebrating in the streets and on balconies.

Noriega, according to a communique given by the nunciature to ACAN-EFE, decided of his own will to depart the residence of the Apostolic Nunciature to present himself to the U.S. Armed Forces troops surrounding the diplomatic mission.

The communique notes that the refuge given to the general in the Papal Nunciature ended the confrontation between the armed forces loyal to him and the U.S. troops that invaded this country to overthrow him on 20 December.

Gen. Manuel Antonio Noriega has left the Apostolic Nunciature today, Thursday, 3 January at 2050, the communique states.

Throughout the capital city there are whistles blowing and shouts of happiness can be heard, while car caravans are loudly blowing their horns. In many neighborhoods, fireworks can be seen as part of the celebration.

Tens of thousands of Panamanians had demonstrated a few hours earlier in front of the Apostolic Nunciature demanding that Noriega be turned over to U.S. justice, which has indicted him on several counts of drug trafficking.

Diplomatic sources told ACAN-EFE that Noriega turned himself over to U.S. justice after receiving guarantees on the development of court cases that have been opened against him in Florida.

Spanish Archbishop Sebastian Laboa, the papal nuncio in Panama, had been optimistic this afternoon about the imminent outcome of the crisis provoked by the presence of the general in the Vatican Embassy.

Endara Interviewed

PA0401041790 Panama City Circuito RPC Radio in Spanish 0310 GMT 3 Jan 90

[Interview with President Guillermo Endara by RPC Radio Director Fernando Eleta Casanova;—live; broadcast in progress]

[Text] [Endara]...very big, very well deserved for Monsignor Jose Sebastian Laboa. He is a man who should be loved by Panamanians more and more each day, not only for his 7 ½ years of struggle for democracy and freedom but also because during these distressing times, in which all Panamanians were concerned about the situation at the Apostolic Nunciature. He has done a good job for Panama.

Laboa provided refuge only for the amount of time necessary to end the violence that was created because Noriega, the criminal, was running around in the streets. Laboa provided refuge, and now he has been able to get Noriega to turn himself over to U.S. authorities.

Therefore, my first comments are directed at making a special recognition of Msgr. Laboa and the Holy See, which handled the situation.

Second, I must say, of course, that Panamanians are now at ease because they know Noriega is leaving our beloved Panama and we feel we have gotten rid of the monster that this man represented in our dear fatherland.

We are really pleased to get rid of such a criminal, and we will later see what we will do about anything else that may come up, but the important thing was to get him to leave the national territory so he can face criminal charges filed against him in other countries, such as the United States.

It is a great moment. Panamanians must feel happy to see how God has blessed us with all the events that have

favored the Panamanian people. We really believe Panama has no obstacle to coming out ahead and achieving reconcilation.

Panamanians are really happy. This is a glorious night in our history.

[Eleta] Thank you, Mr. President, for your comments. Mr. President, are you listening to us? Thank you very much for your comments, especially those going to the apostolic nuncio. We believe they are the proper comments, because over the past few days, the nuncio had been strongly criticized for his actions, but it all seems to indicate that he has always served Panama as he has during the most difficult times. What is your opinion with regard to the rest of the people, some of whom are accused and others who are not accused and still remain in other diplomatic missions?

[Endara] Actually I must confess that our concern for former dictator Noriega was such that we paid little attention to the other people. These other people must face Panamanian justice. They must also turn themselves in to the authorities, just as Noriega did, and they must pay for their crimes.

[Eleta] Thank you very much, Mr. President. These are the basic questions we have right now. We know you are busy and we understand the ministers are on their way to see you. Thank you very much for your statements and congratulations on the work you are doing in these difficult times for Panama.

[Endara] Thank you.

Arias Calderon Comments

PA0401051490 Panama City Telemetro Television in Spanish 0400 GMT 4 Jan 89

[Interview with Dr. Ricardo Arias Calderon, first vice president and government and justice minister, by Ciro Ortega—live]

[Text] Dear television audience, we have here Dr. Ricardo Arias, first vice president and justice minister, who will give the official position of the national government concerning the most recent event—the surrender of Gen. Manuel Antonio Noriega to the U.S. authorities.

[Arias] Our full liberation from the Noriega dictatorship is completed. All Panamanians feel overjoyed because we know a new day has truly begun—a new day of democracy, a new day to be brothers again, and a new day to rebuild our country together, especially for the sake of those who have less. At this time of joy I am thinking about someone for whom all Panamanians feel great admiration and for whom we have a great debt of gratitude, Monsignor Jose Sebastian Laboa, the papal nuncio, who at times of persecution was a human rights defender. Msgr. Laboa, during times of anguish, has been the voice of wisdom and common sense that helped attain the desired result with peace. Thank you very much Msgr. Laboa. These joyful people wish you the best.

[Ortega] General Noriega will be tried by U.S. courts for the crime of drug trafficking. As vice president of the republic, how do you envision this situation?

[Arias] He chose to surrender. He chose of his own will to surrender to U.S. courts, because deep down he has a deep fear of the Panamanian people. I hope and am certain that justice will be meted out to him for the grave crimes he has committed against the Panamanian people, against the people of Latin America, against the people of the United States, and against young people and all those who have suffered because of drug trafficking. The day justice is done to him, we will have taken a big step forward in achieving coexistence amid liberty and decency in our hemisphere.

[Ortega] According to the data available, there are other soldiers in the Apostolic Nunciature, as well as other officials of the former administration. What does this mean for the government of Guillermo Endara Galimany. What is going to be done in that respect?

[Arias] In all of the cases, whatever steps are taken must be directed at permitting justice to be done.

[Ortega] The Panamanian people are celebrating this great event into the late hours of the night. What is your message in that regard?

[Arias] Yes, tomorrow we begin a new day in the full sense of the word. We will work together, work a lot for Panama, for ourselves, not looking back, looking ahead with hope that is no longer an illusion, but becomes real day by day. The hour of liberty, justice, and democracy has arrived. Thank God, who has given us the joy of living this hour. Let us all appeal to him at this time, so he may give us the necessary strength to continue working, as we have, united, for Panama.

Arias Calderon Interviewed

PA0401045790 Bogota Emisoras Caracol Network in Spanish 0331 GMT 4 Jan 90

[Interview with Dr. Ricardo Arias Calderon, first vice president and government and justice minister, by unidentified reporter—live]

[Text] Attention, at this moment Emisoras Caracol has established contact with Panamanian Justice Minister Dr. Ricardo Arias Calderon, who will comment on the situation in Panama City.

[Reporter] Dr. Ricardo Arias Calderon, what is the situation at this moment in Panama City.

[Arias Calderon] At this time, Panama is celebrating as never before in the past generation. People in the city are celebrating. There is a lot of noise because people are banging pots and pans, celebrating with fireworks, and dancing in the streets. Vehicles are coming out to the

streets, and neighborhood after neighborhood is joining the celebrations. This is something incredible, and all this is because we know that finally, there is no more dictatorship and Manuel Antonio Noriega can no longer harm us. This is to a large extent a result of, [corrects himself] this most recent event is a result of the efforts of Papal Nuncio Monsignor Jose Sebastian Laboa. He has reported to President Endara, to me, and to Vice President Ford that today General Noriega voluntarily decided to surrender to the U.S. forces. This took place at approximately 2045. Noriega is (?about) to be taken to the United States.

[Reporter] Dr. Arias Calderon, could you please tell the Emisoras Caracol audience and Panamanians who listen to this radio station about the last few hours of General Noriega, or rather, the events over past few hours in Panama, when thousands and thousands held a demonstration in front of the nunciature demanding Noriega surrender to the U.S. troops to stand trial on several charges in the United States. Mr. Panamanian Vice President Dr. Ricardo Arias Calderon, could you summarize events that took place in your country over the past few hours?

[Arias Calderon] Very gladly. I believe an important event happened a few days ago when the Catholic Church Panamanian Bishops Conference [CEP] declared it believed Gen. Noriega was a criminal who had to stand trial. The CEP also stated that the country could not ensure there would be a fair trial, with respect to the life of the defendant, because of the trauma we have lived through because of the Noriega dictatorship. Undoubtedly, the position of the Panamanian Catholic Church had the approval of the papal nuncio, and gave an indication of the events that took place today. The papal nuncio told Gen. Noriega that he could not remain indefinitely at the nunciature and that he had to stand trial either in Panama or in the United States, because he had not been granted political asylum, but rather temporary refuge intended to bring peace to the country. In view of that alternative, Gen. Noriega freely chose to surrender to the U.S. forces surrounding the nunciature.

What Panamanian people are living at this moment is indescribable. After 21 years of dictatorship—the last years of which were as one of the most troubled and ill-fated dictatorships in Latin America—a combination of black magic, violence, torture, assassinations, unlimited corruption, and the worsening of the crises in all sectors have ended. All people feel relieved and are beginning to see a future with hope and a better outlook.

[Reporter] Dr. Arias Calderon, at this time press agencies are releasing large amount of material on events taking place in Panama. Please allow me to read you an AFP report saying that thousands of Panamanians took to the streets tonight after it was officially announced that Gen. Manuel Antonio Noriega surrendered to the U.S. authorities. A loud noise spread all over the capital, where thousands began banging pots and pans, honking horns, and celebrating with fireworks the surrender of Noriega, who had sought refuge at the embassy of the Holy See following the U.S. military invasion that ousted the regime on 21 December. The local radio station Voz de la Libertad reported Noriega is travelling tonight to Miami, in the United States, on board a U.S. Air Force C-130.

Dr. Ricardo Arias Calderon, how would you describe the atmosphere in your country at this time, and your personal opinion about the fact Gen. Manuel Antonio Noriega surrendered to U.S. authorities and not to Panamanian authorities, which was one of the alternatives.

[Arias Calderon] Today we are experiencing an indescribable explosion of joy. The fact that Gen. Noriega surrendered to the United States and not to Panama reveals beyond any doubt a reality that we always knew—his profound fear of the Panamanian people; his fear of the Panamanian people's will expressed in the elections; his fear of the Panamanians' peaceful demonstrations; and now his fear that the Panamanian people themselves would take justice into their own hands.

This is a man who turned nationalism into a lie; he turned alleged nationalism into a process to cover up atrocious crimes against the Panamamian people. In his final test, he revealed his profound fear of his own people, who are overjoyed today because they finally have been spared his ignominous presence.

[Reporter] A dispatch from EFE reports that Gen. Noriega's surrender tonight in Panama City immediately produced a true carnival atmosphere with thousands of people celebrating the news in the streets and on balconies. Noriega, according to a communique handed to EFE, decided to voluntarily leave the residence of the papal representatitive and surrender to a member of the U.S. Armed Forces, who had surrounded the diplomatic mission.

Mr. Vice President of Panama Dr. Ricardo Arias Calderon, after the surrender of Gen. Noriega to U.S. authorities, which is being reported on international television right now, what are the expectations in Panama? What has transpired in the budding Panamanian democracy? What have other countries said? What kind of aid has been given to the Panamanian people to help them recover from this crisis, which is undoubtedly one of the worst in its history?

[Arias Calderon] We are taking very important steps to achieve full democratization. This afternoon [3 January] the president and his cabinet appointed the new Supreme Court of Justice, the first such court with proven judicial capabilities and independence that Panama has had in more than one generation. Over the next few days the National Assembly will be installed, in keeping with the results of the 7 May elections. The three traditional branches of a democratic state, that is, the executive, judicial, and legislative branches will be installed. Thus, for the first time in this generation we

will have in place an organization that will be democratic and representative of the Panamanian state.

Also, a U.S. economic mission is visiting Panama to work with our representatives to bring substantial U.S. Government aid to the reconstruction of Panama. With this outlook of renewed hope and jubilation, there is a single sad aspect—the governments of Latin America, which did so little to help us rid ourselves of Noriega during decisive moments, should not miss this opportunity to accompany us in our jubilation. I hope many of them will seize this opportunity to give their full and open recognition of the will of the Panamanian people that was sovereignly expressed on 7 May.

We, Panamanians, are no longer oppressed by Noriega and are able to fully recover our national sovereignty. At this time of joy and reconstruction, at this time of reviving our democracy, we would like the democratic governments of Latin America to support us; to leave aside the rhetoric and express their love and friendship for us, and recognize us, because they owe that much to us.

[Reporter] Mr. Vice President of Panama Dr. Ricardo Arias Calderon, what will happen now with the Panama Defense Forces [FDP], which on so many occasions supported Gen. Noriega with so much determination, even when Noriega made decisions, which according to international observers, were arbitrary? For example, when President Endara's victory in the elections was rejected? What is the FDP's fate?

[Arias Calderon] As government and justice minister, my duty is to establish the new Panamanian Public Force. The FDP that Manuel Antonio Noriega created no longer exists. There is now a new leadership and many of these officers were persecuted, jailed, and even tortured by Gen. Noriega.

This new Public Force has sworn loyalty to the Constitution and the law under the authority of the president of the Republic. This new Public Force knows, because the government has told them, that all those civilian institutions that the FDP had overtaken will once again be placed under the authority of the civilian government.

The new Public Force knows all its finances will be part of regular state finances and will not be some sort of monopoly outside democratic controls. The new Public Force knows its main duty is to provide security to the country, while respecting human rights, especially as a police force and public order institution. We are now fully involved in restructuring a Public Force that is allowing former FDP members, who were not personally involved in Gen. Noriega's crimes, to join.

Not one of the colonels of the former FDP is now a member of the Public Force; only three of its lieutenant colonels are members of the new Public Force. The new leaders of the new Public Force include all those who were on active duty with the former FDP, but were not involved in Noriega's crimes, and those who were victims of Noriega. With this new Public Force, I believe we have the opportunity to establish the basis of a healthy and democratic relationship between the top civilian authority and the armed institution.

[Reporter] Mr. Vice President and Government and Justice Minister, with the departure of Gen. Noriega to the United States, the way in which the people have supported the most recent decisions of President Guillermo Endara, and the expressions of support by many foreign governments for the new Panamanian government, do you believe that democracy, which has been one of the most cherished aspirations of your people, is finally consolidated?

[Arias Calderon] That is no longer only a hope; it is a hope that is becoming reality day after day.

[Reporter] Dr. Arias Calderon, many people who supported what you call Gen. Noriega's false nationalism believed that one of the reasons the U.S. Government wanted to remove Noriega from power was to avoid returning the canal to the Panamanian people in 1999. As a leader of President Guillermo Endara's government, what is your opinion of such a claim? What do you think will happen in this regard?

[Arias Calderon] Now more than ever the full and effective implementation of the Torrijos-Carter treaties, which guarantee full canal nationalization between now and the year 2000, will take place. Noriega had become the main obstacle to that full nationalization. As soon as the National Assembly is installed, President Endara will propose the individual who will become the first Panamanian to assume the position of Panama Canal administrator. This will constitute an important guarantee of the fulfillment by both parties of their respective Torrijos-Carter treaty commitments. Now that we have a democracy, we have the guarantee that the treaties will be fulfilled and that the canal's nationalization will take place.

[Reporter] Mr. Vice President, do you believe there will be an economic recovery in Panama and do you believe your country will return to a normal life?

[Arias Calderon] I believe we have taken the first step toward an economic recovery. The country is once again showing confidence in itself. Panamanians are once again saying that it is worth living and working in Panama and for Panama. I believe the crisis we have experienced completely destroyed the self-confidence of the Panamanian people and their possibilities to have a better future. Their self-confidence, which was destroyed, is now returning to Panama. I am convinced that based on this confidence in ourselves and with international economic support, which we hope will come from many countries, not just from the United States, we will be able to significantly improve our situation in the short run.

[Reporter] Mr. Vice President, why not use the Emisoras Caracol stations, which is heard so much in your country, to make a call to the Panamanian people right now, when we are learning that Gen. Manuel Antonio Noriega has turned himself over to the U.S. forces? Why not make a call to the Latin American governments at this moment? We are listening to you.

[Arias Calderon] To all Panamanians who are listening to me right now. Remember the words of our national anthem: We have finally achieved victory in the glorious fold of unity. It is the unity of the majority of the Panamanian people, who have been able to recover our sense of history and dignity. As for the Latin American people—not only the people because they support us, but the Latin American governments—we invite them to share this joy with us. We invite them to share this new rebirth of democracy, reconciliation, and reconstruction in our history. As our anthem also says: We are also willing to cover with a veil the certain lack of solidarity that hurt us, as long as solidarity comes now.

[Reporter] Mr. Vice President, international dispatches are reporting that Gen. Noriega is currently flying to the city of Miami on a DEA plane. They are reporting that he will be tried for drug trafficking and money laundering. Do you personally believe that Noriega was involved in those crimes?

[Arias Calderon] I do not have the slightest moral doubt on that. The U.S. courts will prove it.

[Reporter] It is now 2230 in Colombia and we deeply thank the Panamanian vice president, who is also the government and justice minister, for making these statements to Emisoras Caracol Network. Dr. Arias Calderon, thank you for your statements.

[Arias Calderon] Thank you.

Vice President Ford Comments

PA0401042990 Panama City Circuito RPC Radio in Spanish 0325 GMT 4 Jan 90

[Telephone interview with Second Vice President Guillermo Ford by Julio Miller—live]

[Text] [Ford] Thank you, Julio. First, let me say that as a Panamanian, I am deeply satisfied with this situation that has been resolved to permit us to live amid the democracy, justice, and peace that we all want. The former dictator Noriega, based on the information supplied to me by the distinguished apostolic nuncio, for whom I do not have enough words of appreciation for all his kind efforts on behalf of our people, surrendered of his own will to the U.S. authorities to face the courts in the United States.

He will also have to face justice in Panama, because the crimes he has committed against these noble people can never be forgotten. There will not be any vengeance, there will not be persecution, but there will be justice so this people will never again live the dark pages of history, an important chapter of which we are closing tonight.

I send a profound, emotional greeting to the Panamanian people. Not only because of the support and confidence they have shown us, but because of the upright, honest, dignified, courageous stance maintained by the men, women, children, and elders. Finally, I can say with deep satisfaction, this damned thing is over, Panamanian people.

[Miller] Mr. Ford, we would like you to add if there was any knowlege of the framework of the negotiations, the status under which Mr. Noriega left the nunciature, if there was any prior agreement that paved the way for his departure, and if there were prior conditions that could have been imposed by Mr. Noriega.

[Ford] First, there was no prior negotiation. This was an act of conviction on the part of the distinguished apostolic nuncio and following long talks between him and the former dictator. Afterward the former dictator decided to surrender of his own will to the U.S. authorities. The nuncio is issuing an official communique in that respect tonight. There were no conditions, because the Panamanian people or the government that represents them would not have accepted them, or any promise of anything. He decided of his own will to face U.S. justice and later will have to face Panamanian justice.

[Miller] Mr. Ford, since you are aware of the talks, were there any arguments or was there any situation that forced the ouster of Mr. Noriega tonight, after more than a week?

[Ford] In my opinion, the only thing that could have convinced the former dictator to take that transcending step must have been a weight on his conscience that made him realize that he, after everything that he did against the people and everything that he has done against humanity through drug trafficking, finally reached the point at which his conscience, so as not to be burdened any longer, had to face justice. Mr. Noriega, a common citizen of ungrateful remembrance to the Panamanians, will soon face the U.S. courts for crimes committed there and for crimes committed in Panama.

[Miller] Under the current circumstances, Mr. Ford, what is your message to the Panamanian nation, on learning of this important news that has filled many Panamanians with joy, as many of them have taken to the streets?

[Ford] I extend my sincere congratulations for their upright struggle. I ask that we all begin the reconstruction and reconciliation tasks, that we live in peace. Justice will take care of those who have violated the law and the rules of social coexistence. At this time and as of this moment, as instructed by the president of the republic, the government team will redouble its efforts to

begin reconstruction, which is so important to maintaining peace, and to work with dignity, stability, and calm for these people who we love so much.

[Miller] Thank you, Mr. Ford, for your interesting statement to Television Channel 4.

[Ford] Thank you.

Foreign Minister 'Pleased'

PA0401052190 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 0456 GMT 4 Jan 90

[Text] Panama City, 3 Jan (DPA)—Foreign Minister Julio Linares said today he was "pleased with the outcome" today of the case of General Manuel Antonio Noriega, after the former strongman of Panama surrendered to U.S. troops. Linares said all Panamanians must "appreciate and recognize the great efforts made by Apostolic Nuncio Monsignor Sebastian Laboa" in convincing Gen. Noriega to "make that decision."

The foreign minister explained that some sectors criticized the Vatican's delay in adopting a stand with regard to Noriega's stay at the nunciature, but it was because they wanted to seek "a solution without trauma for Panama, which was that he surrender of his own will to the United States."

"The nuncio has played an important and outstanding role in this case," Linares noted.

Manuel Antonio Noriega entered the Apostolic Nunciature on 24 December, to avoid being captured by U.S. troops which sought to take him to Florida, where he has been indicted on drug-trafficking and money-laundering charges.

For its part, the Apostolic Nunciature, reported in a communique that General Noriega "seriously" considered his responsibility in surrendering at 2050 to the U.S. Forces surrounding the nunciature to end his prolonged stay in the Vatican Embassy.

Events Leading Up to Noriega's Surrender

Armijo Says Noriega 'Latent Danger'

PA0301173390 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 2331 GMT 2 Jan 90

[Text] Col Roberto Armijo, commander of the new Public Force told reporters today Noriega cannot stay in Panama because his presence is a latent danger, even if he is in prison. Armijo said that Noriega must pay in a U.S. jail for what he did to Panama.

Noriega has been at the nunciature in Panama since 24 December along with two other officers; Lt Col Nivaldo Madrinan, former Chief of the National Department of Investigations [DENI], and Captain Eliecer Gaitan, Noriega's former security chief.

Colonel Armijo also said that authorities are on the trail of Col Luis Cordoba, former Traffic Department chief, and Captain Gonzalo Gonzalez, commander of the former Macho de Monte Company. These are the last two officers loyal to Noriega. Both are still at a large. Colonel Armijo told the international press that in Chiriqui Province, which borders Costa Rica, a group of redoubts still loyal to Noriega had surrendered last week. There were about 30 soldiers in the group.

Endara Comments on Upcoming Rally

PA0301141490 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1241 GMT 3 Jan 89

[Text] Panama City, 3 Jan (ACAN-EFE)—Panamanian President Guillermo Endara said on 2 January that he is not afraid there will be violent disturbances during a demonstration scheduled for today in front of the Apostolic Nunciature to demand that General Manuel Antonio Noriega be brought to justice.

The Civic Crusade, a group of business and professional organizations which have opposed the Noriega regime for the past 2 and ½ years, has scheduled a demonstration to demand that the former military chief be evicted from the Nunciature, where he has been in asylum for the past 9 days.

"I believe that like all activities of the Civic Crusade, the demonstration will be peaceful and will reflect great maturity," Endara said. He added that "the people are simply going to demonstrate and say that they want Noriega to come out of the nunciature because he shouldn't be there."

On the possibility that the demonstrators will try to enter the Papal Embassy to remove Noriega by force, the Panamanian president said this is unlikely because "it has been very clearly demonstrated that the Panamanian people are very mature."

"The Panamanian people are angry with Noriega, but not with Msgr Sebastian Laboa," Endara said, noting that an action of that kind would also run contrary to the nuncio's policy.

"Laboa has helped the Panamanian people during 7 and ½ years of their struggle for freedom," Endara said.

Regarding a solution to the problem, he said that he believes the Vatican will hand Noriega over. However, he said he does not see any progress being made in the talks to get Noriega out of the nunciature.

Endara added, "I believe that any day now, the Vatican will decide that Noriega must leave the nunciature forcefully."

He said it would be a "very good" idea for Msgr Laboa to abandon the nunciature leaving Noriega inside and officially transferring the Vatican's diplomatic mission elsewhere, so that Noriega could be captured.

Noriega faces charges in the United States of drug trafficking and "laundering money." That is why one of the goals of the U.S. armed invasion of 20 December was to take him to the U.S. courts.

Endara said, however, that instead of this solution, he "more likely sees the possibility of the nuncio asking Noriega to leave."

Constitutional Restrictions Noted

PA0301175590 Paris AFP in Spanish 1657 GMT 3 Jan 90

[Text] Panama City, 3 Jan (AFP)—Panamanian Foreign Minister Julio Linares has said that Panama cannot turn Manuel Antonio Noriega over to the United States because the political constitution forbids this.

At a news conference, Linares said that the Vatican "will have to decide" if they will turn over the military man, in refuge at the Apostolic Nunciature in this capital since 24 December, to the United States or to Panama." [quotation marks as received]

Linares added that if the the head of the dismantled Defense Forces were placed in the hands of the government of President Guillermo Endara, "we would then decide what to do," because the constitution forbids extradition for trial outside of the country.

Nuncio Laboa Optimistic

PA0301222590 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2051 GMT 3 Jan 90

[Text] Panama City, 3 Jan (ACAN-EFE)—Spanish Archbishop Sebastian Laboa, representative of the Vatican in Panama, was for the first time "optimistic" today about the possibility that Gen Manuel Antonio Noriega, who was given refuge at the nunciature, may soon leave the embassy of the Holy See and appear before U.S. courts. "Because of the talks that I have had with all of the persons in the nunciature, I am optimistic and believe it is possible that Noriega may soon turn himself over to justice," the nuncio told ACAN-EFE today.

Noriega, the former Panamanian military commander, took refuge in the nunciature on 24 December, shortly after the United States invaded Panama for the purpose of seizing him and taking him to appear before U.S. courts which have indicted him on drug trafficking charges.

Diplomatic sources close to the negotiations confirm Laboa's optimism and add that Noriega's departure from the nunciature may occur "within a few hours."

Panamanian Foreign Miniser Julio Linares also confirmed the Nuncio's optimism that there will soon be an outcome.

"Those who are inside have helped greatly in implementing the plan that I have had since the first day which seeks to ensure that justice is carried out," Laboa said, concerning other persons who took refuge together with Noriega.

Other persons who are at the nunciature, in addition to the general, are Lt Col Nivaldo Madrinan, former director of the Department of Criminal Investigations, and Capt Eliecer Gaitain, who was in charge of Noriega's security.

Since Noriega entered the nunciature, Laboa has voiced his wish to convince Noriega to turn himself over to justice "on certain terms," including the safeguarding of his life and the granting of a fair trial, which the ambassador of the Holy See is negotiating with U.S. and Panamanian authorities.

With this purpose, the nuncio has held several meetings with Panamanian Foreign Minister Julio Linares and with Gen Marc Cisneros, chief of U.S. Army South, based in Panama.

Laboa, who dismissed the possibility that Noriega will take asylum in a third country and insisted that he is a "guest" of the nunciature, has been carrying out the negotiations with the intention of preserving the "sacred" right of asylum that the Vatican has always defended.

A demonstration has been scheduled for this afternoon near the nunciature to demand Noriega's ouster.

Thousands Demonstrate

PA0401021390 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2335 GMT 3 Jan 90

[Text] [Reporter] Despite the confusion that existed this afternoon about holding the march organized by the National Civic Crusade [Cruzada Civilista Nacional] around the Vatican Embassy here in Panama to demand that Gen. Noriega be turned over to justice, hundreds of Panamanians began to march early this afternoon from different parts of the capital to the point of the demonstration.

During the march to the rallying point, some of the demonstrators expressed their feelings about Noriega's destination.

[Unidentified person] Just as he acted with the people, when persons could not find their missing children who had been imprisoned, that is how they should take him away.

[Second unidentified person] The people should go in and take him out.

[Third unidentified person] They should hang him with the rope.

[Fourth unidentified person] What do the people want? [crowd responds: Justice!] What do the people want? [crowd responds: Justice!]

[Reporter] Carrying all types of posters and shouting slogans against the former military strongman, the demonstrators went along Balboa Avenue amid perfect order. The demonstration took place without incident, except for what occurred near the premises of the Vatican Embassy when an unidentified individual was arrested by Public Force [FP] members and military policemen. He was acccused by the demonstrators of having a bomb. Up to the time of this report, we have not confirmed whether or not it was true that the individual had a bomb. The individual was taken to a security area and was surrounded by the crowd, which struck him several times, in repudiation of his lowly action. The authorities who guarded him were forced to protect him.

The crowds shouted: Justice! Justice! Thousands of Panamanians gathered today along Balboa Avenue near the Apostolic Nunciature to ask that citizen Manuel Antonio Noriega be turned over to the authorities and that never again should another Army be formed in Panama. During the demonstration, good humor and the knack for publicity of many Panamanians was evident. This was reflected in the drawings, masks, and other pamphlets that appeared. In the same manner, many took advantage to earn a few dollars by selling shirts carrying anti-Noriega slogans.

On the main stand, different individuals spoke. These included Dr. Winston Spadafora, brother of assassinated Dr. Hugo Spadafora, who asked that the list of former Panama Defense Forces officers who joined the FP be released to detect any Noriega redoubt.

[Unidentified person] Down with Noriega, they should turn him over now. This damned thing is over. We are truly free now. Down with Noriega.

'Personal Friend' Speaks With Noriega

PA0401011390 Panama City Telemetro Television in Spanish 0004 GMT 4 Jan 90

[Report to news anchor Octavio Cogley by Francilino Diaz from Balboa Avenue near the Apostolic Nunciature in Panama City—live]

[Text] [Cogley] We now go to our reporter Francilino Diaz, who is on Balboa Avenue near the Apostolic Nunciature, where General Manuel Antonio Noriega has sought refuge along with other members of the former Panamanian Government.

We would like to know how things are going near the Apostolic Nunciature. What can you see?

[Diaz] We want to report that just as the demonstration was taking place, the apostolic nuncio and Captain Eliecer Gaitan, chief of Gen. Noriega's group of bodyguards, spoke for several minutes. Later, Monsignor Sebastian Laboa left and Capt. Gaitan talked to U.S. Army officers who are guarding the main entrance.

We have also heard unofficial reports that representatives of the Southern Command met with Vicky Amado, a very close personal friend of Gen. Noriega, to have her try to convince him to leave the Apostolic Nunciature. We have also learned that Vicky Amado spoke to Gen. Noriega for 10 minutes and that she told him that the decision was up to him and that he should make the decision that was best for him.

We have also learned that Mrs. Felicidad Sieiro de Noriega, wife of Gen. Noriega, and her three daughters, have sought refuge at the Cuban Embassy in Panama City.

These are the most important details we have been able to obtain during the last few minutes, following the demonstration called by the Civic Crusade.

Public Force Chief Quits; Replacement Named

PA0301174190 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1731 GMT 3 Jan 90

[Text] Panama City, 3 Jan (ACAN-EFE)— Panamanian President Guillermo Endara announced today that Colonel Roberto Armijo, chief of Panama's new Public Force which replaced the Defense Forces, resigned from his post today. Endara announced the appointment of Colonel Eduardo Herrera Hassan to replace Armijo.

Endara did not give the reasons for Armijo's resignation.

Col Armijo, who belonged to General Manuel Antonio Noriega's General Staff, was appointed on 23 December, 3 days after the U.S. invasion of Panama.

Eduardo Herrera had been in exile in the United States since being replaced as ambassador to Israel in 1988 by Noriega.

Investigation by Government

PA0301234190 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2151 GMT 3 Jan 90

[Text] Panama City, 3 Jan (ACAN-EFE)—Ricardo Arias Calderon, first vice president and government and justice minister of Panama, refused today to explain the reasons for the resignation of the commander of the Public Force. He only pointed out that "there were objective reasons that called for an investigation."

Arias Calderon told ACAN-EFE that the resignation of Col Roberto Armijo "was the result of a conversation between him and me."

A high-ranking officer of the Public Force, who asked to remain anonymous, told ACAN-EFE that "they discovered something about him that was not serious, but that prevented him from continuing as commander."

President Guillermo Endara announced today the resignation of Armijo and the appointment of Col Eduardo Herrera Hassan who will replace him.

Armijo was the only member of the General Staff of the former Panama Defense Forces led by Gen Manuel Antonio Noriega who was incorporated into the new Public Force.

After being the chief of the Navy during the previous regime, Col Armijo was appointed commander of the Public Force on 23 December, 3 days after the U.S. invasion.

Col Herrera Hassan was in exile in the United States after having been dismissed as ambassador to Israel by Noriega in 1988.

"I would rather respond tomorrow, when other changes in the Public Force will be announced," Arias Calderon said when asked about the reasons for Armijo's resignation.

The vice president added that "the civilian authority of President Guillermo Endara over the Public Force is being exercised through the Government and Justice Ministry."

'Possible Crisis'

PA0301213590 Paris AFP in Spanish 2021 GMT 3 Jan 90

[By special AFP correspondent Arturo Gudino]

[Text] Panama City, 3 Jan (AFP)—The sudden resignation of Col Roberto Armijo as chief of the Public Force [FP] and the differences that have emerged between President Guillermo Endara and Foreign Minister Julio Linares on how to deal with the case of Manuel Antonio Noriega were the initial signs of a possible crisis in the new Panamanian Government today.

The "irrevocable resignation" of Col Armijo was announced at the presidential house by Endara, who declined to comment on the reason the military officer was quitting his post.

Nonetheless, Armijo's friends leaked to newsmen that he "was humiliated" at having to give an account of all FP actions to U.S. Army officers.

Endara announced that Armijo will be replaced by Lt Col Eduardo Herrera Hassan, who was purged from the Army by Noriega on 21 April 1988 while he was serving as ambassador to Israel.

At the same time, Foreign Minister Julio Linares was at odds with President Endara today when he said at a news conference that "according to the Panamanian Constitution, Noriega should not be extradited to the United States."

Noriega sought refuge at the Apostolic Nunciature on the afternoon of 24 December, after evading a 5-day manhunt by 24,000 U.S. troops who invaded the capital to end the regime and seize the general.

One week later, after having taken refuge and requesting asylum, the Vatican dismissed that petition and said that Gen Noriega was in the Nunciature as a "guest" to guarantee his life.

According to Panamanian Church sources, the Vatican is ready to turn the general over, but on the condition that he be given a fair trial and not be sentenced to capital punishment.

Also, local political circles have remarked that Col Armijo's resignation came about as a result of differences with the U.S. Army Southern Command, which controls the country's situation.

Regarding, a church spokesman said that Gen Marc Cisneros, chief of the U.S. Army South, is even in charge of signing for the beef that is accredited to the new FP members.

"I believe that Armijo was humiliated at seeing how the U.S. Army decides what is to be done and how it is to be done," the source who asked to remain anonymous stated.

Armijo was Police Director until 3 October, but fell in disgrace when some of the battalions under his command, including the Doberman antiriot squads, joined the coupist attempt against Noriega.

Meanwhile, Lt Col Eduardo Herrera, the new chief of the FP, which replaced the defunct Panama Defense Forces (FDP), was described by the same sources as "a man who has Washington's complete trust."

This is despite the fact that the late Gen Omar Torrijos once stated that Herrera, who was his cousin, was the ideal person to head the Panamanian Army.

It was also learned that some sectors of the new government have questioned from the beginning the appointment of Herrera, who they accuse of having led the repression against opposition demonstrations on 9 January 1987, known in Panama as "Black Friday."

After being exiled to Miami in 1988, Herrera, who is an expert on guerrilla warfare, tried to form a guerrilla force that never materialized in Panamanian territory.

Government Demands Recognition by Cuba, Nicaragua

PA0301184690 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1756 GMT 3 Jan 90

[Text] Panama City, 3 Jan (ACAN-EFE)— Panamanian Foreign Minister Julio Linares said today that Cuba and Nicaragua "would have to withdraw their embassies" from Panama if they do not recognize the new Panamanian Government.

Linares accused Cuba and Nicaragua of having given "unconditional support" to General Manuel Antonio Noriega's regime and of having applied a "policy of harassment" to the new Panamanian authorities, even after the former military commander had been deposed.

"If those two countries maintain that policy of harassment, we would be obliged to review our relations," Linares said during a news conference.

The Nicaraguan and Cuban Embassies were surrounded by U.S. troops for several days. The residence of Nicaraguan Ambassador Antenor Ferrey was raided by U.S. soldiers and several Cuban diplomats, accompanied by Cuban Ambassador Lazaro Mora, were detained.

Several Panamanian citizens, including Noriega's wife and three daughters, have taken refuge in the Cuban Embassy.

The Panamanian minister noted that "important sectors of Panamanian public opinion want such a break in relations."

Linares insisted that President Guillermo Endara's government is "legal and legitimate" because it has been recognized as the winner in the past elections. He explained that if Cuba and Nicaragua do not recognize the government, their embassies "would not be accredited."

"In that case, they would have to withdraw their embassies and they would be the ones who are breaking diplomatic relations," Linares added.

Oscar Oramas Oliva, Cuba's ambassador to the United Nations, said on 29 December that the Panamanian people "require our aid to keep the invader's boot from continuing to trample on their land, and to keep a puppet government imposed by the weapons of an invader army from curtailing their independence and sovereignty."

Arellano on Formation of Legislative Assembly

PA0301221190 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 1745 GMT 3 Jan 89

[Interview with Carlos Arellano Lennox, provisional head of the Legislative Assembly, by unidentified reporter; date and place not given—recorded]

[Text] [Arellano] According to our Constitution, if it had been installed, the Panamanian Legislative Assembly would be in recess right now. We must wait for the Electoral Tribunal to determine which of the candidates who ran for legislative posts won the elections in each electoral circuits. Subsequently, the Electoral Tribunal will deliver the corresponding credentials. Once the names of the new legislators are published in the OFFICIAL GAZETTE, the Assembly would start its session period. The legislators would then elect the Assembly's board of directors, including a president, a vice president, a secretary general, and an assistant secretary. From that point on, we would have a legally formed legislative branch in Panama. The legislative branch will begin its sessions the day after the legislators receive their credentials.

The legislative branch will then proceed to form its committees and—if the executive branch has the appointments ready—it will begin considering the confirmation of ministers and Supreme Court magistrates.

The Legislative Assembly will then elect the comptroller general and the deputy comptroller general. These two public officials are appointed by the Legislative Assembly and not by the executive branch. The role of the Legislative Assembly is precisely to control the executive branch. That role will be fulfilled now that we have a democratic government.

[Reporter] Mr Arellano Lennox, is the Legislative Assembly considering the appointment of the new Panama Canal administrator?

[Arellano] There is a law concerning that appointment. Until that law is abolished.... [changes thought] and subsequently the Assembly will consider the candidates that are presented to it to then suggest the name of the person chosen by the Assembly to become the new canal administrator. According to the existing canal treaty, the Panamanian executive branch will then propose the name of the person elected by the Legislative Assembly to the U.S. executive branch for his or her appointment.

ADOC Gets 55, Opposition 9 New Assembly Seats

PA0301191390 Paris AFP in Spanish 1733 GMT 3 Jan 90

[Text] Panama City, 3 Jan (AFP)—The Christian Democratic Party (PDC) will control the new Panamanian Legislative Assembly where the Democratic Revolutionary Party (PRD, Torrijist), now the opposition, will have 7 of the 67 parliamentary seats.

According to government sources, the Electoral Tribunal is busily working on the recomposition of the 7 May elections figures, based on vote tally sheets that the Catholic Church, the political parties, and the tribunal itself were keeping.

Regarding the election of legislators, the sources noted that the PDC, headed by Vice President and Government (Interior) Minister Ricardo Arias Calderon, will get 30 seats, while the Nationalist Republican Liberal Movement (MOLIRENA), headed by second Vice President Guillermo Ford, will have 14 legislators.

The Authentic Liberal Party, also a member of the Civic Democratic Opposition Alliance (ADOC), which chose President Guillermo Endara, according to results announced by the Electoral Tribunal last week, will have 11 seats.

In contrast, the PRD, the political branch of the Noriega supporters, will have seven legislators and the Labor Party, which also allied with the previous regime, will have two seats.

The Electoral Tribunal did not give elections results for three electoral circuits because of a lack of reliable documents. New elections will be held there soon.

ETA Members Free To Leave Nunciature

PA0301183890 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1800 GMT 3 Jan 90

[Text] Panama City, 3 Jan (EFE)—Panamanian Foreign Minister Julio Linares today stated that the four ETA [Basque Fatherland and Liberty] members that are refugees at the Apostolic Nunciature in Panama City "can leave whenever they want to because they are not being sought by this country's justice."

Linares noted: "I understand that Spain and the United States signed an extradition treaty recently and these ETA members sought refuge at the Nunciature because they feared that if they fell into United States hands they would be turned over to Spanish authorities."

Miguel Angel Ardana, Juan Carlos Arrioran, Juan Jose Aristizaga, Koldo Zaralegui, and Yane Idigoras, Zarelegui's wife, sought refuge at the Vatican Embassy in Panama on 20 December, the day of the U.S. military invasion.

The nunciature, where Panama's strongman General Manuel Antonio Noriega is also staying, continues to be surrounded by U.S. Army troops.

Linares added that if the ETA members leave the nunciature, the new Panamanian Government "would have to review their status in the country."

List of Asylum Seekers at Cuban Embassy

PA0301135690 Panama City Circuito RPC Radio in Spanish 1221 GMT 3 Jan 90

[Text] Reliable sources have provided an unofficial list of people who have allegedly sought asylum at the Cuban Embassy in Panama:

1. Felicidad Siero de Noriega; 2. Lorena Noriega; 3. Sandra Noriega; 4. Thais Noriega; 5. Manuel Beauchamps; 6. Chang Beauchamps; 7. Digna Montesinos; 8. Agustin Cedeno; 9. Luis Gomez Cedeno; 10. Luis Gomez; 11. Jose L. Gomez; 12. Milena Gomez; 13.Reynaldo Rodriguez; 14) Jose F. Rodriguez; 15. Benjamin Herrera; 16. Samuel Arias; 17. Reynaldo Rivera; 18. Gaspar "Toty" Suarez; 19. Clodomiro Bernal; 20. Jose Tomlinson; 21. R. de Rodriguez; 22. Teodoro Hunt; 23. Carlos Nunez; 24. Ricaurte Arosemena; and, 25. Jesus Puente.

These are the 25 people on the unofficial list of those who have allegedly sought asylum at the Cuban Embassy in Panama.

Pro-Noriega Media Seized by Government

PA0301200090 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1906 GMT 3 Jan 90

[Text] Panama City, 3 Jan (ACAN - EFE)—Two television networks and 10 radio stations linked to General Manuel Antonio Noriega's regime have been placed under the Panamanian Government's custody and their ownership is being investigated, it was stated today by news Media Director Edwin Cabrera.

Cabrera said to ACAN-EFE that the measure has been adopted "to guarantee jobs" and "normal news reports" in the country.

The government's custody is aimed at "investigating the ownership" of these media, Cabrera added.

The new director said that "if the property was properly acquired it will be respected," but warned that "if it was illegally acquired, the state will act accordingly."

The media includes television channels 2 and 5; and radio stations America, Verbo, Soberana, Monumental, Millonaria, and Ritmo—all of them linked with the regime that was ousted by the U.S. military intervention.

The most important publishing group linked with the previous government, Renovacion Publishing Company, Inc. (ERSA), has been recovered by the relatives of Harmodio Arias, who owned it before it was seized by General Omar Torrijos' regime in 1968.

The group, which edited three newspapers, will publish tomorrow, for the first time since the change of regime, the newspapers "CRITICA LIBRE" and "EL PANAMA-AMERICA," which will first be edited in Spanish and later in English.

Cabrera said "there is no longer a censorship" in the Panamanian press, when someone mentioned that that there are practically no disagreeing voices since Guillermo Endara assumed power shortly after the U.S. military intervention began.

Former Legislator Demands Punishment for Criminals

PA0301215590 Panama City EL SIGLO in Spanish 3 Jan 90 pp 13, 15

[Article by Aneldo Arosemena]

[Text] Marcos Alarcon, a leader in the education sector, has demanded exemplary punishment for all those who sponsored corruption, persecution, oppression, and insults in the previous regime.

"I would feel offended to see someone like Carlos Villalaz walking freely on the country's streets," Alarcon said when commenting on the actions carried out by the former attorney general during Noriega's regime.

"A criminal cannot walk freely on the streets or enjoy any pardon; his only place is in prison," the teachers' leader said, adding that he advocates "exemplary punishment." Alarcon said that those who are tried should be given all the legal opportunities that were denied to the opposition for many years.

Alarcon said that if the punishment is not decreed, this would create the conditions that would eventually allow the return of persons with the morals of Manuel Antonio

Noriega, Rigoberto Paredes, and Camilo Gozaine, "because they are all guilty of corruption."

Marcos Alarcon said that if former Supreme Court President Marisol Reyes de Vasquez is eventually tried, she must be asked: "Why did you hide and turn down the writs of habeas corpus when people were arrested?" He said that the former magistrate "twisted things around and resorted to formalities she invented to avoid fulfilling her sacred duty of guaranteeing the arrested prisoners' freedom."

Former Legislator Alarcon referred to the thefts of Legislative Assembly vehicles and possessions, and said it was necessary to investigate the presidents and vice presidents of the last five legislative periods "because they squandered the taxpayers' money through the Legislative Assembly budget—not only to purchase luxury vehicles, which they later used as their private property, but also to purchase farms and invest in 20,000 other things."

The former parliamentary member also said he believes that a committee of lawyers and economists should be created to handle the citizenry's reports of corruption and abuse of power.

"Some people are trying to confuse hate, rancor, and vengeance with true justice—which is what we demand," Alarcon said.

Meanwhile, new Comptroller General Ruben Dario Carles announced that all the public employees' salaries had been paid, and a lot of checks paying for sinecures had been withheld, but we could not get the actual figures—which we promise to have for you tomorrow.

PRD Legislator Reportedly Held at U.S. Base

PA0301164790 Panama City EL SIGLO in Spanish 3 Jan 90 pp 1, 15

[Article by Blas Julio]

[Text] Rigoberto Paredes, one of former dictator Manuel Antonio Noriega's most cunning mafiosi, is currently under arrest at Fort Clayton, where he is guarded by U.S. troops and, according to a source, he is being subjected to a long interrogation.

Paredes, a former legislator of the pro-Noriega PRD [Democratic Revolutionary Party], was an implacable persecutor of civic opposition members, particularly journalists. When this man learned that journalist Jaime Padilla Beliz had been tortured by the Noriega regime, he said the following over the former government's national radio: "All despicable people like Padilla should be executed!" His anti-U.S. boastfulness has diminished at Fort Clayton.

Statements from many different citizens have suggested that Rigoberto is linked with traffickers known for their sinister actions and that he was part of the electoral fraud perpetrated against the ADOC [Civic Democratic Opposition Alliance] on 7 May.

His personal possessions proved his illegal enrichment and the people have always known the truth about the horrendous and despicable Paredes. All of the people are demanding that he should not be allowed to leave prison...ever.

Municipal Council Holds First Meeting

PA3012024389 Panama City Circuito RPC Radio in Spanish 1250 GMT 29 Dec 89

[Statement by Panama City Mayor's Secretary Jose Pitti on 28 December—live or recorded]

[Text] We will listen to a report directly from the Panama District mayoral office where the Mayor's Secretary Jose Pitti is reporting on activities carried out at this institution.

[Pitti] This is a report especially for the RPC Radio audience. On 28 December at 1500, the honorable Panama District Municipal Council was rightfully sworn in. The Panama District Municipal Council meeting was held at the Bella Vista Community Board offices, where council members elected the board of directors. The Panama City Municipal Council elected Bella Vista Corregimiento Representative Nelly de Figueroa as president, and Juan Diaz Corregimiento Representative Olmedo Guillen as vice president. Jose Pitti, elected as secretary, does not have to be a member of any community board.

During the first meeting held by the Panama District Municipal Council since the 20 December invasion, it was agreed that the municipal council will be of temporary nature, until the Electoral Tribunal delivers credentials to all representatives elected. The current members of the municipal council are representatives who had been elected by the majority of the Panamanian people, according to the vote tally sheets under the custody of the Catholic Church.

Panama City Mayor Guillermo Cochez who attended the Municipal Council meeting reported that all Panama District police magistrates had been dismissed. Therefore, he is requesting former corregimiento representatives to return keys and other equipment belonging to the various community boards. Up until this time, many community boards had not handed over the respective keys to the citizens elected as corregimiento representatives and as mayors. The Panama City mayor, along with the corregimiento representatives, is appointing the new police magistrates who will soon be sworn in. We expect this will be done next week, beginning on 2 January.

This has been a report for Circuito RPC Radio directly from the Panama City Mayoral offices.

University Secretary Views Classes, Invasion

PA0301150590 Panama City Circuito RPC Radio in Spanish 1228 GMT 3 Jan 90

[Interview with Miguel Angel Candanedo, secretary general of the University of Panama, by an unidentified journalist in Panama City on 2 January—recorded]

[Text] [Candanedo] On 29 December, the University of Panama issued a communique notifying students, professors, and workers that academic activities—meaning classes—were being suspended until further notice; and that administrative activities would be renewed on 3 January 1990.

For reasons of which all citizens are aware, the University of Panama is preparing to examine the national situation to determine if classes can be renewed when the prevailing conditions guaranteeing the safety and peace of mind of the 50,000 students, professors, and workers exist.

[Journalist] Dr Miguel Angel Candanedo, the demonstrations carried out by the students and the university's administrative authorities brought up issues such as the defense of the university's autonomy, the United States' nonintervention in Panama, and the country's nationality and sovereignty. What is your viewpoint on the U.S. invasion in Panama and what will be, in your opinion, the reaction of the university's students?

[Candanedo] Look, the University of Panama has maintained a historical position throughout its 56 years of existence of defending the national sovereignty; defending the improvement of the national independence; defending democracy and social justice in the country; and defending the university's autonomy to the end. The university's position has been historical and we continue to maintain that position.

The University of Panama has already issued a communique rejecting the U.S. troops' invasion and indicating that our position throughout these years of crisis has been that a solution had to be found among Panamanians to guarantee democracy and social justice.

The de facto situation arising on 20 December creates a critical situation throughout the country and the university. That is why I told you that the University of Panama has to seriously and calmly analyze the situation before renewing classes because the university students' safety must be guaranteed. The country also expects the university to provide guidance for the country's future and the achievement of our national independence, sovereignty, and democracy—goals that all the Panamanian people hope to achieve.

New Supreme Court Justices Appointed

PA0401123590 Panama City EL SIGLO in Spanish 3 Jan 90 p 16

[Report by Carmen L. Boyd Marciaq]

[Text] The Panamanian Judicial Branch has chosen the honorable judges who will serve in the Supreme Court of Justice. The following persons have been named to those posts: Fabian Echevers, Cesar Quintero, Aura Emerita G. de Villalaz, Rodrigo Molina, Edgardo Molina Mola, Carlos Lucas Lopez, Arturo Hoyos, Raul Trujillo, and Jose Manuel Faundes.

According to rumor, Faundes, a man well known for his work on behalf of human rights, will be the chief justice.

Arias Calderon Visits Santiago Military Region

PA3112002789 Panama City Circuito RPC Radio in Spanish 2244 GMT 30 Dec 89

[Text] Ricardo Arias Calderon, first vice president and government minister, visited the headquarters of the 3d Military Region in Santiago, Veraguas Province. He was accompanied by Colonel Roberto Armijo, head of the Public Force.

Arias Calderon spoke to the men assigned to that unit and ordered that the salaries be paid to these former members of the Panama Defense Forces.

Melo Group Sold U.S. Technology to Cubans

PA0401151290 Panama City EL SIGLO in Spanish 3 Jan 90 pp 1, 15

[Report by Aneldo Arosemena]

[Text] Cuban dictator Fidel Castro's younger brother has visited Panama on several occasions wearing a disguise, and worked for 7 months for companies owned by former Finance and Treasury Minister Arturo Melo. Moreover, companies of the "Melo Group" sold U.S. technology to the Cubans for a long time.

A fully reliable source, who worked in the "Melo Group's" development department for 3 years, told EL SIGLO that Arturo Melo was a trafficker of influences during General Noriega's regime. This source claimed to have all kinds of evidence that will be presented to the authorities at the proper time.

The source said that "I handled virtually all of Melo's confidential information because I was a staff member," adding that all the land that the chicken packer owns in Cerro Azul was ill-gotten; "I have the plans."

The source said that Melo gave away houses to Manuel Antonio Noriega, Julio Ow Young, and General Paredes, and set up a chicken farm for Lieutenant Colonel Macias. In return, Colonel Ow Young provided Melo with all the bodyguards he has.

EL SIGLO learned that the "Melo Group" paid ranking Panamanian military men for political favors such as *ministerial appointments. The professional assured that* "in his capacity as IRHE [Institute of Hydraulic Resources and Electrification] Director, Melo brought electricity to all the developments he has in Cerro Azul and I have evidence to back this up."

"In his capacity as commerce minister, Melo obtained exonerations for timber imports and exports. Melo was the first lumberman to bring pine from Canada and Nicaragua, and he exported cedar to the United States. He obtained exonerations for his companies through the Commerce Ministry. [no closing quotation mark as published]

As for the "Melo Group's" dealings with Cuba that prompted the United States to place it on a list of companies that trade with that island, the source pointed out that in exchange for egg boxes made in Cuba, Melo sent timber, computer spare parts, typewriters, and computer packages through a company commercially known as "Electrodata." This is how he sold technology to Cuba. "Melo sold all the chicken farming technology to the Cubans" the source added.

Regarding the land in Cerro Azul, the source noted that most of it belongs to a forest park that is part of the canal hydrographic basin that cannot be deforested. "Melo has obtained false permits using his influence, because that land cannot be deforested," the source said.

The professional added that "Lieutenant Colonel Ow Young obtained all the permits for Melo; I have the plans and permits. The source said it will present all the evidence in the near future to ensure that this man faces justice for all the outrages he has committed.

Paramilitary Members Still on Government Payroll

PA0301174690 Panama City EL SIGLO in Spanish 3 Jan 90 p 11

[Article by Francisco Bosquez Franco]

[Text] EL SIGLO has learned that members of paramilitary bands, under cover as public employees, are getting paid in San Miguelito Municipality.

A municipal office source disclosed that these individuals, who for years sowed terror and crime among Panamanians, have the nerve to continue obstructing the general organization efforts of the new government and, according to the source, after some time, will again take over San Miguelito District.

Residents of the area reported that corregidores of the various community boards are still working, with weapons, because they now want to take the law in their own hands and apply it to people who opposed the *previous regime.*

Violating curfew hours, these paramilitary bands insist on threatening the people and ransacking all those who support new Panamanian President Guillermo Endara Galimany.

EL SIGLO has noticed that all the murderous scum who supported Balbina de Perinan and Luis Gomez are still at the San Miguelito Municipal Office; they are not working, however, they are just waiting for the next payday.

Vicar Says Noriega Militias Burned Neighborhood

PA0101040590 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 2006 GMT 31 Dec 89

[Text] Panama City, 31 Dec (DPA)—Panamanian Vicar Fernando Guardia today announced that the Catholic Church has information that militias loyal to former Gen Manuel Antonio Noriega "burned" El Chorrillo neighbhorhood, an area where the central garrison of that country's former strongman was located. Guardia, one of the priests closest to Archbishop Marco McGrath, said several area residents can "attest" that several Dignity Battalion members set fire to the wooden houses after U.S. troops attacked Noriega's garrison.

The destruction of the buildings has left over 10,000 persons living as refugees at a sports camp under U.S. Army control. It is estimated that reconstruction of the neighborhood will cost $30 million to the new government headed by Guillermo Endara.

Owners Take Possession of ERSA Installations

PA3112033089 Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish 30 Dec 89 p A1

[Text] Top executives of the Editora Panama America firm took possession of the property owned by this enterprise, seized by the military dictatorship that began in October 1968.

The Editora Panama America installations became Editora Renovacion [ERSA] during the government of General Torrijos until the ouster of General Noriega. This newspaper publishing company was a bastion of the media that supported the previous government.

When Editora Panama America was seized it published three newspapers: EL PANAMA AMERICA, a paper printed in Spanish, and its English version, THE PANAMA AMERICA, as well as CRITICA and LA HORA.

"We are pleased to report that on 26 December 1989, the undersigned took possession of the newspaper installations on behalf of Editora Panama America, a property

that was seized by the military dictatorship," Mrs. Rosario Arias de Galindo, president of Editora Panama America, and Gilberto Arias, vice president, stated in a letter to the Inter-American Press Association [IAPA], the international organization comprised of the main newspapers of the world, known for its defense of journalism, freedom of expression and enterprise.

Arias stressed that, so far, they have not found that much damage to the property, but that they are in the process of conducting an inventory and assessing and selecting personnel to begin operations.

Galindo confirmed to a LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA reporter that they have taken possession of the installations.

Galindo and Arias added: "We want to express our profound appreciation to IAPA and its various presidents, freedom committees, and board of directors" for defending the legitimate rights of the owners of Editora Panama America.

Government Appoints Airline, Cultural Officials

PA3012000089 Panama City Radio Soberana Civilista in Spanish 2153 GMT 29 Dec 89

[Text] Dr Jorge Valdes Harris has been appointed general manager of Air Panama. He has been a courageous opposition leader for many years and he represented the Authentic Liberal Party at the National Vote Counting Board in the 7 May elections.

In addition, Luis Martinz has been appointed director general of the INAC [National Culture Institute].

Chile

Aylwin Urges Year of 'Reconciliation'

PY0301173690 Santiago Radio Cooperativa Network in Spanish 2300 GMT 2 Jan 90

[Year-end message to the nation by President-elect Patricio Aylwin; date and place not given—recorded]

[Text] At the beginning of this new year, I would like to convey a cordial message to my fellow countrymen, the Chilean men and women, to whom I express my best wishes. May God help us and bless us.

The latest events in Chile and around the world have enabled us to look to the future with hope. We are beginning a new decade, the last decade of the 20th century, under the auspicious signs of freedom, justice, and peace.

Democracy has been upheld, repressive systems have been rejected, and walls that divide men have been destroyed. Our people, like many others, have reaffirmed their faith in human dignity and in humankind's capacity to build a better world with mutual respect, the use of reason and law instead of force, and understanding.

This is not the right time to look back on the past. History will pass judgment on the past. Our task now is to build the fatherland we want, a fatherland that is free, just, and good for all its children.

I am fully aware of the great responsibility that the majority of my fellow countrymen have placed on my shoulders by entrusting me with the mission of directing this historic process. Without a doubt, it will be a difficult task. But it is a pleasant challenge that calls for and deserves the cooperation of all patriots.

My first task as president will be to strengthen unity among Chileans. Only if we unite—beyond our differences—will we have a chance of taking advantage of the excellent opportunities that lie ahead of us.

Consequently, I solemnly call upon all of my fellow countrymen, without exception, to make 1990 the year of national reconciliation, the reconciliation of Chile and its own history, which reflects our democratic tenets of freedom, respect for people and institutions, integrity, respect for the law, and moderation. Observance of these principles in the past made Chile a great nation that enjoyed prestige all over the world.

We should make 1990 a year of reconciliation in tolerance and pluralism, building a united fatherland beyond the diversity of Chileans.

It is obvious that we are not all alike. Our beliefs and ideas are not the same. We live in different situations and have different preferences and aspirations. Yet we share a common past and a common future. Let us learn to live like brothers, respecting one another even if we do not always agree, and strengthening the forces that unite us rather than those that divide us.

Let us make 1990 a year of reconciliation between *governors and the governed*, based on the fact that—if it is to be fruitful—the institutional authority of those who govern should be coupled with their moral authority. Their moral authority should reflect their capacity to listen, to interpret, to serve the people, and to set an example of devotion and generosity.

Let us make 1990 a year of reconciliation between the people and our major institutions. Circumstances have led several Chileans to have doubts about state institutions. We should overcome this problem by implementing essential reforms, so that all of us can participate in our common tasks and so that all of us can commit ourselves to the rules of national coexistence. This will give us the stability that we need to live, work, and rest with tranquillity.

This year should be a year of reconciliation between our country and the truth, which is the only path that will heal the wounds of the past and lead to the national reconciliation that Chile wishes for and needs.

History proves that neither lying nor forgetting will help to build sound achievements. We must have the courage to face the truth about the human rights violations and other violent actions that have affected the peace of Chileans. This must be done without hatred or revenge, but with prudent and constructive means and with a true spirit of justice and reconciliation.

We would make 1990 a year to restore a peace built upon justice. If we are to overcome the traumas of the past and promote peaceful coexistence among Chileans, doing away with all forms of violence, we will have to do justice to all those who—like many political prisoners—have been or still are victims of unfair or violent actions or procedures.

It is urgent that we find solutions that will guarantee that justice will prevail for everyone, because this is the primary foundation of social peace.

We should make 1990 a year of reconciliation between the people and the Armed Forces and the forces of order. We must do everything possible so that all Chileans may again look on the Armed Forces and forces of order with respect, admiration, and trust, and so that the Armed Forces may not see all citizens as their potential enemies, but as compatriots with whom they share a common destiny.

We should make 1990 a year of reconciliation of freedom and security. We do not want to curtial freedom to guarantee public order and the security of the people. Neither do we want the restoration of freedom to provoke insecurity and concern.

In a democracy we should be able to preserve both freedom and security. I ask all of you to help me achieve this goal.

We would make 1990 a year in which economic growth will be promoted and in which equality among citizens will be preserved. Our challenge is to reconcile economic growth and social justice. We are sure that this is a

feasible task. We no longer want a system in which a few are wealthy while the majority lives in poverty.

We know that we will not eliminate poverty if we do not generate new wealth. We will therefore have to simultaneously promote growth and a fair distribution of income.

We should make 1990 a year of reconciliation between businessmen and workers, which is an essential foundation for stability and sustained growth. This calls for cooperation and understanding on both sides on the basis of justice, instead of fruitless confrontation.

We should make 1990 a year of new hope for youth. We should make our strongest efforts to build a country without frustration in youthful souls. They must recover confidence, the desire to participate, and the hope to progress, because if we give more and better opportunities to the youth, we will be helping the fatherland.

The year 1990 should be one of reconciliation for Chile and the rest of the world. Our destiny as a nation is necessarily linked to what is happening beyond our borders. We should end the isolation that has affected Chile in several areas, return to the international arena respectfully but also commanding respect, and defend our own interests, the values of freedom and justice, and the cause of peace.

We are beginning this year under auspicious signs. I believe that an aspiration for understanding and unity is prevailing throughout the world and also in our country, as is evidenced by many concrete facts.

I hope that the attitudes that reveal stubbornness or seek to impose positions on the basis of force instead of reasonable understanding will not prevail. Such attitudes may become obstacles on our path, but they will not stop us. If such attitudes continue, they will be met with general repudiation; Chile wants not imposition but understanding, not conflict but peace.

I am strongly convinced that my hopes for nationwide reconciliation reflect the dearest wishes of the Chilean people. I hope that I can count on everyone's patriotic cooperation, beyond all differences, so that this year we may jointly take a decisive step forward on the path of reconciliation among Chileans, which will be the path of consolidation of our young democracy.

Lucar Replaces Sinclair in Government Junta

PY0301133390 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 0930 GMT 3 Jan 90

[Text] Lieutenant General Santiago Sinclair has said that President Pinochet's continuance as commander in chief of the Army is an undeniable constitutional right.

Sinclair made this comment as he left his government junta post to assume his responsibilities as a designated senator. General Sinclair has been replaced as a member of the Government Junta by Army Deputy Commander Lieutenant General Jorge Lucar Figueroa.

[Begin Sinclair recording] That [not further specified] is a very personal opinion of a known member of the Christian Democratic Party [PDC]. I do not think the president needs to worry about that. According to the Constitution he is allowed to choose, and in this case he has decided to remain as Army commander. Therefore, from a constitutional point of view, I do not see any contradiction in this issue. [end recording]

Asked about a possible agreement between the current administration and representatives of the future government regarding the draft Armed Forces charter, General Sinclair said that he was very optimistic. Regarding a PDC statement that they will ask the future congress to eliminate designated senators, Sinclair—in his capacity as one of these designated senators—asserted that this will have to be decided within a free democratic forum.

PCCh To Maintain 'Independent Position'

PY0301132290 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 0930 GMT 3 Jan 90

[Text] The Communist Party of Chile [PCCh] will maintain an independent position under Patricio Aylwin's government. This information was made public by PCCh Central Committee members headed by PCCh youth leaders Manuel Guzman and Manuel Cantero.

[Begin recording, in progress] [Unidentified spokesman] ...the future government headed by Patricio Aylwin that will take over in March. It has to do with strengthening our own position in terms of this government, taking into account the fact that we will make every possible effort to prevent its destabilization. We will undoubtedly contribute to the fulfillment of the government program, but always acting from an independent point of view. [end recording]

The leaders pointed out that, at an upcoming nationwide meeting, the PCCh will also discuss the international situation and note their happiness with the next anniversary of the Cuban revolution, asserting that the its principles are valid for Latin America. They also announced that the PCCh will celebrate this anniversary today.

The PCCh Central Committee, it was reported, will maintain its policy of mass mobilization and demonstrations to repudiate the latest laws.

Colombia

Minister Notes 'Positive' Antidrug Struggle

PA0301125090 Paris AFP in Spanish 2321 GMT 2 Jan 90

[Text] Bogota, 2 Jan (AFP)—The Colombian drug traffickers "are on the run," Government (Interior) Minister Carlos Lemos stated today, noting that "the struggle against drug trafficking was positive in 1989."

Lemos said he is convinced that "the struggle has not been in vain."

He acknowledged that it was "a sad year, considering the assassinations of Liberal Party presidential candidate and Senator Luis Carlos Galan, of Antioquia Governor Antonio Roldan, of mayors, magistrates, newsmen, and innocent citizens."

Minister Lemos said that the government of Liberal Party President Virgilio Barco, whose constitutional term ends on 7 August, "has launched a struggle offensive against crime."

"The death of Gonzalo Rodriguez Gacha (the Mexican), dismantling of the terrorist cells, and seizure of the property of the drug traffickers has been a result of the government's policy," Lemos stated.

The minister said that the Colombian antidrug trafficking successes are a result of the leadership of President Barco, who "strangely enough has won more international than national acclaim."

Guerrillas Ambush Police Patrol in Aguachica

PA0301135190 Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish 1212 GMT 3 Jan 90

[Text] Intense military operations are under way in rural areas near Aguachica, in the southern area of Cesar, in an attempt to locate the Army of National Liberation [ELN] guerrillas who dynamited a police patrol vehicle. The initial report indicates that six policemen were killed and four wounded. According to information supplied by the police General Directorate, the attack occurred at Cerro de los Chivos, 5 km from the center of Aguachica.

The rebels initially blew up the vehicle and afteward shot the policemen. These policemen had been on patrol and control missions in the area. Those killed were identified as Sergeant German Herrera Gomez, Corporal Alfonso Enrique Delvalle Utria, and policemen Jorge Eliecer Alate Gomez, Manuel Arnulfo Ardina Ortiz, Luis Francisco Parra Pacheco, and driver Gilberto Manjarres Torres.

The wounded are Eduardo Maestre Orozco, Carlos Arturo Nieto Coca, Juan Manuel Duran Escobar, and Manuel Garcia Gutierrez. They are being treated at the Aguachica hospital.

From Bucaramanga, reinforcements from the elite forces were sent in to seize the guerrillas responsible for the attack and to capture a group of criminals operating in the area. This is the first terrorist attack on the police in 1990.

ELN Guerrillas Reportedly Attack Bus in Cali

PA0301141290 Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish 1253 GMT 3 Jan 90

[Report by Fernando Mosquera from Agua Blanca District—live]

[Text] Good morning, we are at the site of the events, meaning the entrance to the Agua Blanca District, which is part of Valle del Cauca zone. Cali's metropolitan police have confirmed that a National Liberation Army [ELN] commando perpetrated the terrorist attack on Bus No 28, license plates BJ7546, of the Villanueva Belen Company. The police reported 3 dead and 20 wounded so far.

Major Jairo Rula, police commander in the Agua Blanca District, gave the following report:

[Begin recording] [Rula] The report we have right now is that 3 died and 20 were wounded.

[Mosquera] At what time did the attack occur?

[Rula] At 0530.

[Mosquera] Where have the wounded people been taken?

[Rula] To several medical centers such as the Department Hospital, the Eustaquio Porras Center, and others.

[Mosquera] Major, do you know who perpetrated the attack?

[Rula] We do not know but we found some ELN pamphlets at the site of the attack.

[Mosquera] Was gasoline poured inside the bus?

[Rula] The wounded have stated that some men poured gasoline inside the bus and set fire to it.

[Mosquera] What....[changes thought] were the people allowed to leave the bus or did the driver make any requests on behalf of the passengers?

[Rula] I have no information on that. I believe the attackers acted quickly and did not give anyone a chance to leave the vehicle. [end recording]

The three dead people have yet to be identified, but the names of the wounded are as follows: Esperanza Astaiza, Aura Botero, Orlando Arias, Julio Salazar, Erasmo Popayan, Ana Lennis, Nancy Zeron, Luis Alberto Chavarria, Luis Tellez, Amparo Gonzalez, Maria Villanueva, Luis Eduardo Jaramillo, Maximiliano Delgado, Teofilo Arango, Felix Juan Escobar, Jorge Marchand, Luis Perea, Eduardo Jose Lucas, Julio Cesar Valencia, and Edgar Antonio Arcos Munoz.

The metropolitan police's and Army's operation continues to capture the terrorists.